

Beirut acts against soaring prices

BEIRUT (R) — Beirut authorities Monday announced measures to control prices amid reports that costs of basic commodities were soaring as the Lebanese pound's record plunge accelerated. Mounif Owaidat, the city's chief public prosecutor, told Beirut Radio he had authorised tough action by the Commerce Ministry's consumer protection department to check price rises. Official statistics were not available, but newspapers reported sharp weekend price increases as the pound continued to crash. It hit 15.10 to the dollar Monday, compared with nine to the dollar at the start of January (See page 7). Mr. Owaidat said he had authorised the consumer's protection department to force importers, traders and salesmen to show all documentation relating to their prices and profit margins. He also called for the arrest and prosecution of anyone violating price regulations and profit margins.

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Saunders urges new U.S. initiative

LONDON (Petra) — Harold Saunders, a former U.S. assistant secretary of state, has criticised the U.S. support for Israel and urged the Reagan administration to adopt an even-handed policy towards the Arabs and Israel. In an interview with the London-based Ashraq Al Awasat newspaper, Mr. Saunders, who served in the Carter administration which helped negotiate the Israeli-Egyptian Camp David treaty of 1979, said any new initiative for peace in the Middle East should take into consideration all "new facts that have emerged since 1982" and not only President Ronald Reagan's proposal announced in September 1982. The new elements in the search for a peace in the Middle East were the Arab proposal adopted at the Fez Arab summit and resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council in its 17th session in Amman, in addition to joint efforts by His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, he said.

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French-Israeli nuclear talks reported

TEL AVIV (R) — An aide to French President Francois Mitterrand ended a secretive three-day visit to Israel Monday amid press speculation that he discussed the terms of a proposed sale of French nuclear reactors. Spokesmen for Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir confirmed that Jacques Attali had two meetings with Peres and one with Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche but refused to give details. The Labour Party newspaper Davar said the apparent purpose of the visit was to discuss the supply of nuclear reactors to Israel, especially the terms of the sales.

Fahd receives Portuguese minister

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and the Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama discussed Monday the activation of the diplomatic ties between the two countries, informed sources reported. Portugal and the kingdom established diplomatic relations five years ago, but while a Portuguese ambassador was promptly named to this leading Gulf state, Riyadh has not yet opened a mission in Lisbon. The sources, who refused to be identified, said Mr. Gama passed a message from his government urging the opening of the Saudi embassy in Lisbon.

2 Kashmiris found guilty of murder

BIRMINGHAM (R) — Two Kashmiris were found guilty Monday of murdering kidnapped Indian diplomat Ravindra Mhatre last year. A jury found Abdul Raja, 28, and Mohammad Riaz, 23, guilty on majority verdict at the end of an 16-day trial in Birmingham, central England, and they will be sentenced on Thursday. Both pleaded not guilty. Raja, who gave a Paris address, and Riaz, a student with an address in Leicester, central England, were also found guilty of falsely imprisoning Mhatre. They denied that charge too. Mhatre, 48, was an assistant commissioner at the Indian high commission in Birmingham.

Yugoslavia jails three dissidents

BELGRADE (AP) — A district court Monday found three dissidents guilty of spreading hostile propaganda and sentenced them to prison terms ranging from one to two years. Each defendant faced a possible maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and defence attorneys depicted the relatively short sentences as a victory for free speech. The decision handed down by Presiding Judge Zoran Stojkovic found the three guilty of falsely depicting the Yugoslav system and insulting Yugoslav leaders, including the late President Josip Broz Tito, verbally and in writing.

6 Sikhs killed in Punjab shrine

NEW DELHI (AP) — Six Sikhs were murdered and sexually mutilated with swords at a shrine in Punjab state, a senior state government official reported Monday. Punjab authorities said three of the six slain Sikhs were religious preachers.

Obeidat briefs Genscher on Jordan's stand Bonn will support all-party Mideast talks, president says

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — West German President Richard von Weizsaecker said Monday his country would encourage any conference on Middle East peace that is capable of bringing together all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Speaking at a press briefing he gave over breakfast at Basman Palace, Dr. von Weizsaecker said: "We are committed neither in favour nor against any specific form to meet to find solutions." "The essential thing is that all states and parties involved must participate for it would be no good following a specific form of conference if some states involved do not attend," the West German president told reporters.

His Majesty King Hussein had repeatedly called for the convening of an international Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices in which all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, would participate.

The King's proposal was rejected by the United States and Israel which opposed the participation of the PLO and the Soviet Union in Middle East peace talks.

W. Germany to aid Egypt's nuclear plant

BONN (AP) — The Bonn government has agreed to guarantee financing of Egypt's first nuclear power reactor, which will be delivered by Kraftwerk Union of West Germany, informed sources said Monday.

Final approval was given last Wednesday during a meeting of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet, sources close to the government told the Associated Press.

A financial guarantee for the project, which has been under discussion for more than a year, had been supported by the West German Foreign Ministry and opposed by the Finance Ministry, the sources said.

Details of the delivery contract and financing still have to be negotiated, the sources said. However, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher was expected to announce the government's financial guarantee Tuesday in Cairo.

Mr. Genscher will accompany President Richard von Weizsaecker to Cairo for the first visit by a West German head of state.

Greek supertanker hit in Iraqi attack

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi jet fighters slammed an Exocet missile into the Greek supertanker Fairship-L on Monday as it was heading to lift crude oil at Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal, shipping executives in Bahrain reported.

The attack was confirmed a few hours after an Iraqi military spokesman announced on Baghdad Radio that Iraqi jet fighters raided "a large naval target" south of Kharg at 1100 hours (0800 GMT).

The spokesman said the jets "scored a direct and effective hit" on their target and "returned safely to base."

The executives said the 269,709-ton vessel in ballast was attacked on the periphery of the Iran-Iraq war zone in the northern parts of the Gulf waters.

None of the 26-member crew, 16 of whom were Greek nationals, were harmed in the attack, these executives reported. But the sea-skimming missile "damaged" the engine room, they added.

No further details were immediately available.

Since the start of 1984, Iraq had declared an air and sea blockade

was necessary for Washington to play an active role in efforts for peace in the Middle East and that it should be encouraged to do so.

In reply to a question, he said that the Arabs should also play an active role and that "this is the direction which a joint action by the European Community (EC) could take."

Dr. von Weizsaecker said West Germany did not intend to add another European initiative and that his country had proposed to Italy to continue contacts with countries in the region and come out with an initiative based on the Venice Declaration of June 1980 and subsequent initiatives on the Middle East.

Later Monday, Mr. Genscher met with Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat at the Prime Ministry and the two leaders "reviewed current political moves in the international arena vis-a-vis the Middle East and the Palestinian question," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

The agency said the prime minister briefed Mr. Genscher on Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the proposed international conference on the Middle East.

Mr. Obeidat was quoted as saying that such a conference would provide a "practical umbrella for all parties involved to submit their views" in the process of reaching a solution to the Palestinian question.

Mr. Obeidat stressed the importance of a West German role

within the EC to support efforts exerted to achieve a just and durable peace in the area, Petra said.

Meanwhile, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl was quoted as saying that the gathering of all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict on the negotiating table would be the beginning to solve the Palestinian question.

In an interview published by the Riyadh-based Al Jazirah newspaper, Dr. Kohl stressed his country's respect of the rights of Palestinian people and that a representative office for the PLO was opened in Bonn as the organisation is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, Petra reported from the Saudi capital.

Dr. von Weizsaecker, who leaves Amman for Cairo Tuesday, said at a banquet hosted by the King Sunday that his country will strive to achieve peace in the Middle East which includes the Palestinians and Israel.

"Peace in the Middle East is not possible without or against the Palestinian people, nor is it possible without or against Israel," he said.

The King and the West German President met in the afternoon.

(Continued on page 3)

Dr. von Weizsaecker, A gentleman in politics, page 2

Mrs. von Weizsaecker visits SOS village, training centre, page 3

6 Israelis wounded in bomb blasts near Tyre

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Six Israeli soldiers were wounded in two bomb attacks Monday on convoys near Tyre in South Lebanon, security sources quoted by Reuters said.

A military spokesman in Tel Aviv said only three soldiers were wounded in the attacks.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said meanwhile that Israel would not diverge from its timetable for a phased withdrawal from South Lebanon, which calls for Israeli troops to pull back to a temporary line near the Litani River by Feb. 18.

"We see no reason why we should move out faster than we originally determined," Mr. Rabin told reporters on his return from a week-long visit to the United States.

In Monday's attacks, one soldier was seriously wounded and another suffered light wounds when a bomb exploded near Tyre, south of Tyre, an Israeli spokesman said.

An hour later another bomb exploded as a convoy passed near the village of Jouwaya, east of Tyre, slightly wounding a soldier. According to official Israeli figures 611 Israeli soldiers have been killed and over 4,000 wounded since the Jewish state's invasion of Lebanon in June 1982.

The mounting casualties are seen as the major reason behind the Israeli decision to withdraw

Syria: Anti-Israeli attacks may take new form in Lebanon, page 2



West German President Richard von Weizsaecker (third from left) and an official delegation accompanying him and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan listen to a briefing by Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Fakhreddine Daghestani on the RSS's programmes and activities during a visit to the West German leader paid to the RSS Monday (Petra photo)

Levinger opens fire on Dheishe camp residents

Israeli soldier shot dead in centre of occupied town

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Israeli soldier was shot dead in the centre of the occupied West Bank city of Nablus Monday in a daring escalation of anti-occupation resistance while a Jewish extremist leader opened fire on residents of the Dheishe refugee camp near Bethlehem.

Security sources quoted by Reuters said the soldier was guarding a building of the Israeli occupation forces in Al Birah, north of Jerusalem, when several men approached him and opened fire with a .22-calibre weapon.

He was rushed to hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Israeli troops sealed off the area and imposed a curfew on Al Birah and the nearby Al Ameri refugee camp as well as the town of Ramallah.

The shooting occurred near Manara Square in the centre of Ramallah, a Palestinian city 16 kilometres north of Jerusalem. Military sources who spoke on condition they not be identified

said a search was conducted for the assailant but no arrests had been made.

An Associated Press reporter who was allowed to enter the city saw more than 100 Palestinians sitting in rows in the courtyard of the police station, apparently waiting to be questioned.

The city's streets were deserted and stores were shuttered as Israeli patrols rounded up other Palestinians.

The shooting followed the death of an Israeli civilian last week from third-degree burns after unidentified men — first bombed his car. It was the first fatal attack on an Israeli in the West Bank for two years.

Earlier Monday, an extremist rabbi opened fire to try to deter Palestinian youths who threw stones at him and Israeli vehicles at the Dheishe refugee camp outside Bethlehem.

No injuries were reported in the clash, which occurred a day after hundreds of Jewish settlers blocked main roads in the occupied

West Bank to demand an end to increased Palestinian resistance activities against the Israeli occupation forces and settlers. The road from Jerusalem which passes the Dheishe camp was blocked off and Israeli soldiers barred non-residents from entering the area.

Rabbi Moshe Levinger, who has camped across the road from the Dheishe camp for more than three months to protest what he sees as "weak Israeli response to Palestinian attacks," claimed Monday's incident began after youths threw stones at him and the vehicles of Israeli soldiers.

He told a reporter he went into the camp and fired about 20 volleys "to show them that we are not frightened by them." He was joined by seven parliament members who had planned the trip before Monday's incident in a show of support.

Rabbi Levinger and his supporters are demanding stiffer punishments against Palestinians. Israeli harassment of Dheishe residents goes on, page 5

Arafat reportedly submits PLO proposals for peace to Fahd

RIYADH (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has submitted to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia a report of the PLO's plans for a comprehensive peace with Israel, PLO sources said Monday.

Mr. Arafat left here for an undisclosed destination, after a marathon session with King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the PLO's bid to set up an independent state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, these sources said.

King Fahd is due to fly to Washington Feb. 11 for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestinian issue, the Iran-Iraq war and other issues.

Mr. Arafat, these PLO sources said, briefed the king on what the PLO hopes to gain from the United States if the Middle East peace process gets under way.

Mr. Arafat also held a brief meeting here Sunday night with visiting Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama. The two men discussed the Middle East, with Mr. Arafat briefing Mr. Gama on Arab-Israeli peace prospects, the

same sources said.

Portugal, which recognises the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, was reported to be planning to allow the Palestinian organisation to open a representative office in Lisbon.

Mr. Arafat told three Saudi newspapers that his meeting with King Fahd was "important because it comes prior to the king's visit to Washington."

Arab diplomatic sources said that King Fahd plans to underscore Palestinian rights in his talks with Mr. Reagan.

The king, they said, will try to get Mr. Reagan to recognise the PLO and pave the road for its participation as a full partner in any future peace talks with the Israelis.

The king's ultimate objective, they added, will be to talk Mr. Reagan into recognising the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and to establish a country of their own.

Mr. Arafat briefed King Fahd on "attempts by the Israeli occupation authorities to Judaise occupied Arab territory and settle

Jewish immigrants on Arab lands," PLO officials said.

The PLO leader also cautioned against dangers besetting Palestinian refugees in southern Lebanon camps.

"The Israelis and their collaborators in southern Lebanon are planning to commit another massacre against the Palestinians in that region," Mr. Arafat was quoted as telling the king (See page 2).

Mr. Arafat was referring to the massacre of refugees at Palestinian camps in Beirut in 1982, when he accused Israel and Lebanese militias of killing a large number of refugees in cold blood.

King Fahd reassured Mr. Arafat, "promising to exert himself for the sake of the Palestinian people," the PLO officials said.

No details were immediately available on the "peace-making" report that Mr. Arafat reportedly handed the king during the meeting.

But sources said the report envisages Palestinian aspirations, demands and conditions for peace with Israel.

Poland, E. Germany and France named in Delhi spy's confession

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Poland, East Germany and France were named Monday as countries involved in India's espionage network by a businessman described by newspapers as a key figure in the scandal, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

The news agency said Coomarr Narayan, Delhi representative of a Bombay-based Mankal Trading Company confessed before a magistrate that he had passed on secrets to the three nations in an espionage career spanning 25 years.

While identifying France, Poland and East Germany, Narayan identified at least three diplomats but sources declined to reveal the diplomats' names. They said it would hamper the investigations.

The United States, the Soviet Union and China were not involved, he testified.

Narayan said he sold secret documents relating to India's defence, commerce and political situation, the sources said.

Narayan said he sold the secrets to the three embassies in return

for their help in getting his company foreign contracts.

"I did this job for my company, which made millions of rupees. I too made lakhs (hundreds of thousands) of rupees, tens of thousands of dollars," he was quoted as saying.

France's deputy military attaché, identified as a key figure working for foreign intelligence buyers, was recalled to Paris last month in connection with the case. The French ambassador, Serge Boidevaix, also has been recalled and is expected to leave for Paris this week.

PTI said Narayan confessed to Delhi Magistrate P.K. Dham that he had sold secrets for tens of thousands of dollars.

Newspapers have said investigators probing the scandal were inquiring into links with Eastern bloc intelligence agencies, but Narayan's statement was the first time since the network was revealed that Poland and East Germany have been named.

The agency said Narayan paid

trifling sums to his accomplices while receiving tens of thousands of dollars from foreign agents.

Authoritative sources told Reuters that Finance Ministry Additional Secretary J.S. Bajaj and Defence Production Secretary M.C. Sarin have been asked to take leave after their personal assistants were arrested by police investigating the spy scandal.

Asked to comment on the move, an official spokesman said: "You can say Mr. Sarin is taking leave preparatory to retirement and that Mr. Bajaj will do the same." He did not elaborate.

Narayan is the second of 15 suspects to have made a confession since they were rounded up after the whisky-for-secrets scandal was exposed nearly three weeks ago.

On Saturday, S. Sankaran, personal assistant to President Zail Singh's press secretary, confessed to having sold items of information for as little as \$4 at a time over a period of more than two years.

INSIDE

- * Libya delays release of 4 Britons, page 2
- * Jordan selected as base for WHO regional centre, page 3
- * An Arabian tale, by Rami G. Khouri, page 4
- * Artifacts recall tragedy of 'Donnar party', page 5
- * Hess storms back to victory, page 6
- * IMF loans drop sharply, page 7
- * West optimistic of progress at Geneva talks, page 8

Iraqi troops reportedly capture strategic position

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq captured a strategic border position in a thrust against Iranian troops last Thursday on the central Gulf war front, Iraq's ruling Baath Party newspaper *Al Thawra* reported Monday.

An Iraqi official told Reuters the position was a rocky mountain stretching over the border and overlooking Iraqi towns, including Mandali and Naft Khanem, opposite the Iranian town of Sumar. The official would not say whether the captured area was inside Iran. But he said Iraqi positions in Mandali, a deserted town 120 kilometres east of Baghdad, and Naft Khanem had come under constant Iranian shelling before Thursday's attack.

Al Thawra said the position, Al Simoun Al Sakharaya (rocky projections), was captured by Iraq's 606th Brigade in an attack launched four days after Iraqi troops opened an offensive on the southern front of the 53-month-old war.

The government newspaper *Al Jumhuriya* Monday gave a report of southern front fighting, quoting an army commander as saying: "Our troops captured defined positions and crossed to over 200 metres behind them."

Brigadier Yalchin Omar Adel, commander of Iraq's "Al Hussein" troops, did not name the positions, but said: "After Iraqi troops withdrew from Iranian territories (in 1982), our troops kept repelling their offensives on Iraqi territory."

"This had given the enemy an impression that we were not able to attack its positions," he was quoted as saying.

But Brig. Yalchin said: "We attacked and crushed their heads... if President Saddam Hussein ordered us to wipe out their troops massed on our borders and enter deep inside their territories once again, we would."

He said five Iranian counter-attacks on Jan. 28 had been "repelled and destroyed" and that many Iranians had surrendered in fighting east of the Iraqi city of Basra at the head of the Gulf.

An Iraqi war communique issued Sunday night said Iraqi troops Sunday repelled two "desperate" Iranian attacks in the southern sector.

On the central front, *Al Thawra* Monday quoted a divisional commander, Brig. Abed Mutlag Hamoudi, as saying more than 1,500 Iranians had been killed on Thursday.

He said his troops had wiped out Iraq's 809th "Sabab" (Mirage) Battalion and another battalion, the "Al Qods" (Jerusalem).



OBEIDAT BRIEFS GENSCHER: Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher (to Mr. Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat (second from right) Obaidat's right) at the Prime Ministry (Petra photo) holds a meeting Monday with visiting West German.

Iranian earthquake destroys hundreds of buildings

TEHRAN (Agencies) — About 1,000 buildings have been destroyed and 500 others damaged by earthquakes in the southern Iranian town of Fath Abad, the Iranian News Agency IRNA said Monday.

One person died and about 100 others were injured in the quakes Sunday which measured 5.6 degrees on the open-ended Richter Scale.

IRNA said Fath Abad, 30 kilometres south west of Shiraz in Fars province, was the worst hit. The town has a population of 40,000 and 1,540 buildings.

Quoted residents as saying the first tremor was weak and people left their beds and took to the streets. The second was much stronger and light tremors continued to shake the area every 20 to 30 minutes until well into the afternoon.

Provincial officials have ordered 5,000 tents to be sent for the residents of Fath Abad.

Other affected areas were the towns and cities of Firouzbah, Jirakaze and Jahrom and their surrounding villages, according to the news received by IRNA from the southern Iranian city of Shiraz.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society rushed aids to the stricken area, while rescue workers were still trying to help people, especially those still trapped in damaged buildings and were afraid to leave because of the aftershocks. IRNA quoted the Tehran Geophysics Institute as saying the Fars province was Iran's most earthquake-prone areas.

It added an earthquake measured 7 degrees on the Richter Scale had caused losses and extensive damage in Fars in April 1972.

It said Sunday's earthquakes were felt in several Iranian provinces and were recorded by geophysical institutes around the country.

Weizsaecker: a 'gentleman' in West German politics

By Klaus Bering

BONN (DPA) — President Richard von Weizsaecker's state visit to Jordan and Egypt — the first of a West German head of state to the region — signal the political calibre which he brings to his office.

Mr. von Weizsaecker's meeting with King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak are intended to be a firm expression of Bonn's continued determination fully to support the policies of understanding pursued by both Arab statesmen.

At the same time, the visits to Jordan and to Egypt, coming strikingly early in Mr. von Weizsaecker's term of office, reflect the president's own priorities.

The trips are to be followed by one to Israel underlining the pronounced political awareness which Mr. von Weizsaecker is widely regarded as bringing to the office of president which he assumed on July 1, 1984. Soon afterward he paid his first and so far only state visit to France.

Mr. von Weizsaecker, 64, is an intellectual. A trained jurist he made a career in industry and banking and then, since the 1960s, came increasingly to the fore in the Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

With the reputation of being a "gentleman" in politics, he enjoyed widespread support in his own party and respect of the opposition.

Ethiopia attacks Arab states over support for Eritreans

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The government-owned Ethiopian Herald said Monday Arab states supported secessionist groups in northern Ethiopia because they want to turn the Red Sea into an area completely under Arab influence.

The daily, in a lengthy and prominently displayed editorial, accused "reactionary" Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) of backing rebel groups in Eritrea to turn the Red Sea region into an "Arab lake."

The Herald was commenting on a Foreign Ministry statement last month accusing Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Iraq, Syria, Morocco and the PLO of supporting the secessionists.

It said that Ethiopia, which has a Red Sea coast, was a "negation of their hegemonistic ambitions over the region."

Palestinian refugee camp in Sidon faces danger

AFN AL HILWEH CAMP, Lebanon (AP) — The dirt roads into this Palestinian refugee camp are black from the tires frequently set ablaze to try to block Israeli army patrols from entering during Israel's 31-month occupation of southern Lebanon.

But now, as trucks rumble past the camp daily preparing for the pullback of Israel's army farther south in Lebanon, the camp's 50,000 residents may soon be on their own amid dangers both from outside and within.

In recognition of the uncertainties facing the camp on the edge of Sidon, a "Popular Committee" of Palestinians has asked for United Nations' troops to be moved into the area.

A spokesman for the group — set up to run the camp's affairs — said the U.N. soldiers were needed to serve as "witness for what could happen."

"We hold the United Nations and the Security Council responsible if anything happens against the unarmed Palestinians," said the committee spokesman, who would not give his name.

Ali Qasem, a Palestinian who works as camp services director for the United Nations, said fears in the camp grew out of the 1982 massacres in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut in which Falangist militiamen killed hundreds of Palestinians.

During a visit last week, Mr. Qasem and other camp officials talked openly about fear of attacks from neighbouring villages, but they would say little about turmoil that could develop inside the camp itself.

This includes possible revenge killings aimed at Palestinians who have worked with Israelis and a struggle for control of the camp by dissidents and loyalists in Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The head of the Popular Committee said his men were contacting other groups in the area to try to prevent any trouble within the Israeli withdrawal.

But sources familiar with the camp, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said whole families were fleeing south to other refugee camps close to the port of Tyre.

The sprawling camp on the southern edge of Sidon is surrounded by Christian villages in the south.

Revenge killings have already begun in the camp. Several Palestinians accused of working with Israelis have been killed or wounded late at night by masked gunmen, apparently from several different groups.

Mr. Qasem, the U.N. camp services director, said last week that all so-called collaborators already had fled Afn Al Hilweh.

But two days after he offered that assurance, another man accused of working with Israel was wounded in a battle inside the camp.

The spokesman for the Popular Committee also offered assurances, saying all the camps residents are united under PLO.

But once the occupation force is gone, Afn Al Hilweh would be a temptation for Mr. Arafat, who was forced out of Lebanon by Syrian-backed dissidents in December 1983, as well as for the dissidents themselves.

Lebanon's Falangist radio stations have already contended that dissidents under Col. Saeed Moussa were poised in the central Lebanese mountains ready to move into Afn Al Hilweh.

And Nizar Najarian, leader of the Lebanese Forces militia in South Lebanon, also said that Mr. Arafat had formed a committee in the Beirut refugee camp of Bourj Al Barajneh with the aim of taking control of Afn Al Hilweh.

"We would not like the Palestinian presence to be transformed into a military presence... The people now in the camps are poor people. They are not the problem. It's Yasser Arafat," Najarian said.

Syria: Anti-Israeli attacks in Lebanon may take new form

DAMASCUS (R) — A Syrian newspaper, said Monday attacks on Israeli troops by Lebanese resistance fighters would take new forms if Israel delayed ending its 32-month-old occupation of South Lebanon.

Al Baath, organ of the ruling Syrian Baath Party, said the resistance, which "has exhausted the Israeli enemy on the human and economic levels, will step up its heroic operations until Israel unconditionally withdraws its forces."

"Should Israel persist in manoeuvring and procrastinating over the withdrawal, these operations will assume new forms against the Zionist invaders and their agents," Al Baath said without elaboration.

Syria would continue helping the resistance to intensify its struggle and "render it more effective until liberation," the newspaper added.

Commando attacks on Israeli troops and their local militia allies have increased since Israel announced last month that it would pull its forces out of the Sidon area by Feb. 18 in the first part of a three-stage withdrawal.

Libya delays release of 4 Britons

LONDON (AP) — Libya Monday postponed for at least 24 hours the release of four Britons held there since May, citing "unforeseen circumstances," the British consul in Tripoli said.

Consul Hugh Dummachie said in a telephone interview with Press Association (PA), the British domestic news agency: "The statement from the Libyans said it was due to unforeseen circumstances and I don't know any more than that."

"This is only a 24-hour delay in a nine-month wait, so it is not that bad."

Earlier Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy who negotiated the men's release, was quoted by the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) as saying he was "cautiously optimistic" the handover would go ahead around 0830 GMT.

But the Church of England press office said it had no information on the delay.

The British Foreign Office called it "disappointing news."

A spokesman who declined to be identified said: "Hopefully the men's release will go ahead tomorrow. But this has very much been a wait-and-see operation."

Earlier, the Libyan government expressed anger at Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for unveiling a memorial Friday to a policeman shot by a gunman in the Libyan embassy last April.

The last-minute hitch surfaced late Sunday when the Libyan JANA news agency branded the unveiling of the memorial to policeman Yvonne Fletcher "an open attempt to stir up hatred... an unfortunate provocation of an old wound."

It noted: "This crusader-like and hateful act by Margaret Thatcher may hinder the release of the four Britons imprisoned in Libya."

The four, engineers Malcolm Anderson and Robin Plummer, teachers Michael Berdinner and Alan Russell, were seized by the Libyan government after the shooting incident at the Libyan embassy in London.

A gunman firing from an embassy window killed policeman Fletcher last April. Eleven Libyan dissidents protesting outside the embassy, the gunman's target, were wounded.

The shooting triggered an 11-day siege that ended in Libyan and British breaking off diplomatic relations.

Eve Keatley, spokeswoman for Archbishop Robert Runcie, announced the planned release Sunday, ending a three-month shuttle effort by Mr. Waite who met with Libyan strongman Col. Muammar Qadhafi in a bedouin tent in the desert.

The bearded 6-foot, 8-inch Waite reported from Tripoli that Libyan Foreign Ministry chiefs have assured Mr. Waite that the four Britons would be freed Monday and allowed to leave Libya within a few days.

The Foreign Office said it could not confirm the report, Runcie's aides were not available for comment.

Relations between Britain and Libya had been badly strained because of attacks on Col. Qadhafi's opponents in Britain and his support for the Irish Republican Army (IRA) fighting to drive the British out of Northern Ireland.

Mr. Berdinner's sister Mary said she was "overwhelmed with delight." Russell's wife Carol said Mr. Waite "single-handedly achieved a miracle."

'Butcher of Tehran' replaced as prosecutor

TEHRAN (R) — The man responsible for the trial and execution of thousands, following Iran's revolution in 1979, has been replaced as revolutionary prosecutor, a spokesman for the judicial council said Monday.

Assadollah Lajavardi, who recently acknowledged that many called him the "Butcher of Tehran," had held the post for about four years and operated from the notorious Evin Prison in north Tehran.

His replacement, by a religious judge from Mashhad, Hojatolislam Razini, follows recent controversy over his policy of refusing to release prisoners until, in effect, they were turned into Muslim fundamentalists.

The spokesman told Reuters Mr. Lajavardi would remain in the judiciary but had not yet accepted a new post.

Small, bearded and a former carpenter, Mr. Lajavardi played a key role in the Iranian revolution, seeking out those who proved too slow to accept the new Islamic order.

He spent 14 years in jails under the late Shah's regime and once said he had marks on his back from the lashings he endured.

Counter-revolutionaries were executed in batches at night at the grim Evin Prison. Mr. Lajavardi ran the execution programme in ruthless manner, but was affable to journalists and once showed them round a rehabilitation centre for prisoners from Evin.

Despite his reputation he greeted and shook hands with prisoners, as though they were members of a wayward flock.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of the new German films daily at the Goethe Institute except Friday, Sunday and Thursday afternoon and will run until Feb. 7.

† An exhibition of books and publications on the teaching of English, organised by the British Council, at the University of Jordan Language Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
American Centre Library 41520
British Council 36111
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 13th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qaf'a (Claret Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muatazzah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabal Amman, 25383.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775361.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 771751.
Assam International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, #16534.

05:13 Fajr
06:38 (Sunrise) Duha
11:41 Dhuhur
14:26 'Asr
16:45 Maghrib
18:10 'Isha

PRAYER TIMES

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alle information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 33250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:30	Aqaba (RJ)
09:30	Dubai (RJ)
09:45	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Muscat, Oman (RJ)
09:55	Cairo (RJ)
09:55	Dhahran (RJ)
09:55	Dubai, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Beirut (RJ)
10:20	Cairo (MS)
10:35	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
10:45	Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:50	Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
12:15	Doha (GF)
13:50	Moscow (SU)
14:00	Kuwait (KU)
16:15	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:00	Amsterdam, Istanbul (KLM)
18:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:45	Tripoli (RJ)
20:15	Zurich, Larnaca (RJ)
20:20	Athens (OA)
20:40	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
20:50	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
00:40	Cairo (RJ)
01:10	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

05:40	Cairo (RJ)
07:00	Beirut (RJ)
07:15	Aqaba (RJ)
11:15	Tripoli (RJ)
11:20	Cairo (MS)
11:45	Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00	Paris, London (RJ)
12:15	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:15	Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:30	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30	Rome (RJ)
13:00	Bahrain (GF)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
14:50	Moscow (SU)
15:40	Kuwait (KU)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)
18:45	Baghdad (RJ)
18:10	Singapore (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with scattered rain especially in the northern and central regions of the country. Wind will be westerly moderate, in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C.
Amman 3/13
Aqaba 8/21
Deserts 11/6
Jordan Valley 8/19
Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 11, Aqaba 20, Humidity readings, Amman 94 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 775111
First aid, first aid 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Queen Alia Int. Airport 77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53353

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre #13413-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 44281-4
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 44241
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malles, J. Amman 36140
Shmeisani, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Amman 667183
Al-Musabir Hospital 66727-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Indian, Al-Muhajreen 77711-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111
Army, Marfa 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Joseph Esmail 770560

MARKET PRICES

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Joseph Emsiah 770560

Telephone:

Information

Jordan and Middle East calls

Overseas calls

Cable or telegram

Repair service

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (double red)	280 / 220
Apple (golden)	280 / 220
Apple (starken)	280 / 220
3 bananas	280 / 240
Banana (Mukammur)	240 / 210
Beans	330 / 280
Broad beans	380 / 350
Cabbage	80 / 50
Chestnut	640 / 570
Carrot (yellow)	120 / 90
Carrot (black)	150 / 120
Cauliflower	80 / 50
Cucumber (large)	130 / 100
Cucumber (small)	230 / 180
Eggplant (large)	140 / 110
Eggplant (small)	150 / 120
Garlic	180 / 150
Grapefruit	160 / 130

Lemon	140 / 100
Lettuce (per one)	90 / 60
Matlow	250 / 200
Mandarin	180 / 140
Marrow (large)	160 / 130
Marrow (small)	160 / 130
Onion (dry)	150 / 120
Onion (green)	220 / 180
Oranges (Abu Surra)	260 / 220
Oranges (Shammout)	200 / 170
Parsley	70 / 50
Pears (American)	500 / 300
Pepper (sweet)	600 / 540
Pepper (hot green)	440 / 400
Potatoes (local)	240 / 200
Radishes	80 / 50
Spinach	80 / 50
Tomatoes	140 / 100
Turnip	130 / 100

Jordan selected as base for WHO regional centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to become the centre of environmental health activities for the East-Mediterranean countries, according to an agreement reached here between the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The centre aims to promote technical and scientific cooperation and the planning of joint projects between Jordan and WHO.

The centre also aims to solve problems related to the environment, the training of a related work force, the exchange of related information, the support of

research and the application of technology in this field.

The WHO will provide Jordan with experts, advisors and consultants in addition to equipping the centre and training its staff.

A special WHO committee previously visited Jordan, Kuwait, Iraq, Egypt and Pakistan and decided to choose Jordan as a site for the centre because of the good level of health services provided and the availability of experience in the country suitable for the establishment of the centre.

The centre's research and findings will later be used by East-Mediterranean countries.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday accompanied Mrs. Marianne von Weizsaecker (second left) on a tour of the SOS children's village which provides a family environment for orphan children. (Petra photo)

Queen, W.German first lady tour SOS children's village, Wadi Seer training college

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday accompanied Mrs. von Weizsaecker, wife of the visiting West German president, on visits to the site of Jordan's SOS Children's Village and the Wadi Seer Training Centre, which were both substantially financed by West German institutions.

West Bank, Syria, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Taam briefed Queen Noor and Mrs. von Weizsaecker on the centre's activities in the training of male and female students, which totalled 7,082 since the centre was established in 1960.

In 1970 West Germany contributed JD 200,000 towards the expansion of the centre and the improvement of its facilities.

At the end of the visit, Mr. Taam presented Her Majesty Queen Noor and Mrs. von Weizsaecker with the centre shields.

Queen Noor and Mrs. von Weizsaecker were briefed by the representative of the international society for children's villages on the village's layout, its cost, expected capacity and objectives. The children's villages society is a world-wide organisation which takes care of orphans and deprived children by providing them with suitable family homes.

The Jordanian village, which was 80 per cent financed by the German people, is situated on a 30-dunum plot of land provided by the Jordanian government. When completed it will have eleven family homes, a kindergarten, a social services centre and a small workshop.

At the Wadi Seer Training Centre the Queen and her guests were greeted by the under-secretary at the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, Dr. Ahmad J. Al-Anani, the centre director Mahmoud Taam and the director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Jordan Per Olof Hallqvist.



Mrs. Marianne von Weizsaecker (right) receives the shield of the Wadi Seer Training College after a tour of the training facilities offered by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Petra photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal Decree recesses parliament

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Monday recessing parliament as of Feb. 1st for a period of eight months in accordance with Article 78 of the constitution. Parliament reconvenes for its next session in October.

Abdul Jabbar meets UNFPA delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar Monday met with a delegation from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and discussed Jordan's research, studies and statistical needs related to the population. The talks also dealt with Jordan's needs for studies in the fields of population education, family and vocational extension, manpower planning, working women and immigration.

Iraqi civil defence team visits Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — A visiting Iraqi civil defence team Monday visited Irbid Civil Defence Directorate and were met by Civil Defence Director General Khalid Tarawneh and officers of the directorate. The team, headed by Mr. Imad Uddin Shabib, was briefed on civil defence activities in the region and toured the north of the Jordan Valley.

Ten villages to join switchboard system

MADABA (Petra) — Ten villages in the Madaba area will be linked to the Madaba electronic switchboard on Thursday, according to Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) engineer Khalid Abadi. The 200 telephone subscribers in these villages will be able to use the international dialling service.

Madaba centres conclude courses

MADABA (Petra) — Two courses on flower arranging and woodwork were completed at Madaba social services centre Monday. Participants in the two courses had theoretical and practical lessons on flower arranging, gardening, public gardens management, wood carving and wood models.

Water authority improves Irbid networks

IRBID (Petra) — The water authority in Irbid is currently improving water networks in Irbid-Governorate and 170 kilometres of pipes have been supplied for this purpose, according to authority sources in Irbid. The authority is also changing the water network of Irbid, laying sewerage pipes in the city, fully supervising all water networks in the governorate as well as improving the conditions of water networks in the villages that are not included in the general tender.

'Bonn supports all-party talks'

(Continued from page 1)

head of state held a second round of talks Monday but no information was immediately available on the context of the discussions.

Earlier Monday, Dr. von Weizsaecker visited the Martyr's Monument accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. He toured the monument's various sections after attending an official reception. The president also watered the "Tree of Life" at the monument.

Prince Hassan, Dr. von Weizsaecker and an official delegation accompanying the West German president then visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) where they were received by RSS Director Fakhreddin Daghestani, University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, Muta

University President Ali Mahafza and other officials.

Dr. Daghestani delivered a speech in which he welcomed the West German president and praised the friendly relations and co-operation between Jordan and West Germany, mainly in the scientific and cultural fields.

The West German president also visited the Jordan Valley farm of former Prime Minister Zaid Rifa'i, where Prince Hassan briefed him on an agriculture development project in the area.

Dr. von Weizsaecker, accompanied by Prince Hassan, also visited an army camp on the Dead Sea and was the guest of honour at a lunch hosted by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. King Hussein, Queen Noor and other officials also attended the lunch.

Country roads would cost JD 46m to improve, public works minister says

AMMAN (Petra) — Country roads in Jordan total 2,300 kilometres in length and would cost JD 46 million to improve, according to Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem.

He was speaking at a meeting chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar and attended by the ministers of public works, municipal and rural affairs and the environment and agriculture to discuss the distribution of the 1985 budget allocation for country and rural roads.

Mr. Nijem said that the current budget allocated JD 3.3 million for roads, their construction or maintenance out of JD 8 million requested by local governors.

Mr. Nijem stressed the importance of road quality and called for avoiding dividing road construction into stages.

The minister added that a meeting of local governors and administrators with public works directors will convene next week to decide on a priorities schedule.

He added that the government is currently working on legislation

that will ban heavy trucks and machinery from passing through cities.

Opening the meeting, Mr. Arar praised the Ministry of Public Works move to decentralise its responsibilities and delegate some of them to local governors.

The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment executed 41 road projects in Irbid region last year at the cost of JD 1.25 million.

Another 34 road projects are currently under construction in the same region at an estimated cost of JD 1.56 million.

In the same region 63 different building projects including schools, municipal houses and charitable societies are near completion at the cost of JD 1.1 million.

In Amman region 79 different road and building projects were executed in the same period at a cost of JD 4 million.

In Madaba region another 41 road and building projects were completed at the cost of JD 0.6 million, it was announced.

In Balqa Governorate, similar projects were also completed at a total cost of JD 1.2 million.

All projects were executed under the supervision of the ministry and were financed mostly through government funds and partially through local municipal funds.

RSS runs computer courses

AMMAN (J.T.) — The computer department at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has opened training courses for employees in the public sector on the use of computers for administrative and financial purposes.

The department's director, Dr.

Yusuf Nuseir, said that at present 25 directors and executives from the Water Authority of Jordan (WAS) are attending a four-week course on management information systems and other courses are being run simultaneously for computer programmers from the Income Tax Department.

Cold, rainy weather to continue

By Sa'ad G. Hatfar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A polar air mass moving from northern Europe to the east Mediterranean region across Turkey is expected to affect Jordan within the next 24 hours. Meteorology Department Director General Ali Abanda forecast Monday.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Abanda said that the Kingdom will witness a sharp drop in temperature and that the weather will be cloudy and rainy in the northern and central parts of the Kingdom, extending gradually to all parts of Jordan.

He said that snow is expected to fall over mountains of more than 800 metres. The wind will be fresh westerly becoming active at times.

The Gulf of Aqaba will be partly cloudy to cloudy, with the possibility of light showers and the wind will be fresh and the sea will be rough.

The quantity of rainfall during the last 24 hours in millimetres are as follows: Amman Municipality 1.5; University of Jordan 2.5; Musagar 2.0; Duleil Valley 0.2; Deir Alla 0.2; Queen Alia International Airport 2.5; Northern Mazar 5.0; Mashat Feiza 2.5; Irbid 2.7; Ramtha 0.5; Turra 0.4; Thuneibeh 2.3; Samara 3.2; Ras Muneef 0.8; Esh-tafna 1.0; Ajloun 1.5; Anjara 1.2; Jerash 7.0; Alkretah 3.0; Al Koura 2.2; Alshouneh Al She-maleh 1.5; Bal Ama 2.0 mil-

limetres.

The amount of rain which fell in Jordan over the past three days exceeds half the amounts that fell in the country since the beginning of this winter, director of the Water Authority of Jordan (WAS), Mr. Mohammad Saleh Al Kellani was quoted as saying Monday.

Reservoirs refill

He said that the water stored in the King Talal reservoir over the past three days increased by nearly 23 million cubic metres because of the continuous rain, and also the level of water in the other reservoirs in Jordan rose noticeably. The water in the Kafra reservoir in the Jordan Valley increased by 360,000 cubic metres and Wadi Shu'aib reservoir received nearly 144,000 cubic metres, while Ziqab reservoir had 40,000 cubic metres of water, Mr. Kellani added. He said that rain fall at this particular time of the year gives hope that all reservoirs and dams in the country will have sufficient stores of water and that underground water resources will be replenished.

Engineer Mohammad Al Aaleem, director of the dams department at the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), expects rain fall during this season to increase the total amount of water in the lake to 48 million cubic metres. But for now the JVA will rationalise the distribution of water to the Jordan Valley fields with priority to be given to citrus orchards, Mr. Al Aaleem added.

ACOR offers archaeology course

AMMAN (J.T.) — A month-long course entitled "Integrated Archaeology: A Balanced Approach" starts tonight at the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR). The six-part course centres on material derived from the Irbid/Beit Ras archaeological project being co-directed by Dr. Cherie Lenzen, who will teach the course.

The course will look into such matters as the meaning of "integrated archaeology", positive and negative aspects of historical documents, traditional archaeological skills and methods, and ethnographic and ethno-archaeological research.

The course will meet at ACOR every Tuesday evening for the next six weeks, starting tonight. For more information, contact the ACOR director or administrator at 814917.

Salzburg report praises image of Jordanian women

AMMAN (J.T.) — A recent report from the Harvard University-sponsored Salzburg seminar applauded the new image projected by Jordanian women and their role as main contributors to Jordan's development.

President of the Jordanian Women's Federation, Mrs. Halifa Al Bashir, attended this year's seminar and the discussion following her speech was the main topic of a thought forum for 23 participants from 16 European and Asian countries.

Last year witnessed the strongest representation of Jordanian women in the Salzburg seminar. The session was on "Communication and Development". The main speaker was Mr. Musa Keilani, as a faculty member, as well as Dr. Mazen Armouti of Yarmouk University and Dr. Mohammad Suleibi from Jordan Television.

The final report applauded in glowing terms Jordan's contribution to enhance the level of discussion and the standard of professor-participant dialogue. The forum of the Salzburg seminar is considered as one of the main opinion-moulding fora in Austria and Western Europe.

Majali praises cultural ties with W. Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — The visit of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to West Germany last year set a firm base for cultural exchange between Jordanian and German educational establishments, according to University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali.

He told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the West German government and various institutions have for a long time provided assistance to the university. Dr. Majali said that the nuclear accelerator, donated by West Germany, was one of the most modern pieces of equipment used in scientific research.

Dr. Majali added that West Germany also provided the University of Jordan with equipment for the Faculty of Engineering, supplied teachers of the German language and scholarships for Jordanian students in German universities.

He praised the cultural ties between the two countries and expressed hope that West Germany would help the University of Jordan build its higher studies faculty.

The faculty needs advanced technology and such technology is available in West Germany, Dr. Majali concluded.

University of Jordan receives 2,000 theses, research papers

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan Documentation and Manuscript Centre has received 2,000 theses and masters theses from Arab and foreign researchers in the United States.

The centre has also received a number of books as a present from the Islamic University in the holy city of Medina, Saudi Arabia. The centre will soon publish part one of a lexicon containing indexes of 10,000 manuscripts.

Meanwhile, the university's library provided the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) with a list containing books translated into Arabic in Jordan for inclusion in UNESCO's 37th lexicon of translated books.

The library also provided the Canadian energy research institute with titles of all theses and articles which were published recently relating to energy.

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AGENTS OF BOSCH GMBH
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RICHARD VON WEIZSAECKER
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Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor wishing them a very happy stay in Jordan

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The International Baccalaureate School invites applicants for the following posts:

- 1. LIBRARIAN**
Applicants should be bilingual in Arabic and English, possess a recognised qualification in librarianship, and have experience in both Arabic and English library work. The successful applicant will be responsible for the school's bilingual library, both day-to-day issuing and administration, and classification and processing of new books, and also for the rapid expansion of the library in both languages.
- 2. BURSAR**
Applicants should be bilingual in Arabic and English, should have good experience of middle-level financial management, including budgeting and financial planning, and a relevant qualification. The successful applicant will be responsible for supplying the school management with fast and accurate financial management information and will also be responsible for purchasing, supplies, contracts, leases etc.,

Application forms are available from the school (tel: 845572). Applications should be submitted by Sunday 10 February, and short-listed candidates will be interviewed during the following week.

TURKISH CULTURAL CENTRE
announces winter term

Turkish language and artificial flower making courses
Date of Term: February 10 - May 10, 1985
Classes will be at two levels.

REGISTRATION will continue until February 10, 1985 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 - 5 p.m.

Rainbow Street, off First Circle
Phone: 39777

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German **AEG** company
Washing machines and refrigerators

Welcome the honourable guests of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor His Excellency President Dr. Richard Von Weizsaecker of the Federal Republic of Germany and his wife and wish them a happy stay in Jordan.
Herzlich Willkommen.

ترحب
بضيف الحسين
التكبير
والسيد عقيته
صلى الله عليه وسلم

هو التوازي للمحرمات التقنية الألمانية
التي تدمج التكنولوجيا الحديثة
في الأجهزة

KRUPP-KAUTEX
رواسب كاوتكس

REWASIT
رواسب ريسيت

SEITZ-ENGELER NOLL
معدات سيز-انجيلر-نول

معدات مؤسسة
فريسنير

Jordan Times

THE JORDAN TIMES is a daily newspaper published in Amman, Jordan. It is owned and published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate. The newspaper covers national and international news, sports, and cultural events. It is known for its commitment to providing timely and accurate reporting on the events in Jordan and the Middle East.

PLO takes a step

THE Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is moving towards accepting the "land for peace" formula to solve the Palestinian problem, but not on the basis of U.N. Resolution 242. In other words, the PLO seems now ready to surmount one of the biggest obstacles that has stood in the way of its participation in the peace process. This is a positive development that has unfortunately received little attention, despite its significance.

What the Palestinian leadership is now seeking can be summarised in a few words. They will accept the "land for peace" formula but only if the land mentioned there is "Palestinian land," implying the establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza through the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and in the diaspora. Some of us may argue that this concept is not new, since it was embodied in the Fez declaration of 1982. But in fact it is, since Article 7 of the Fez resolution only implicitly recognised Israel, with the question of total peace remaining as a side issue. Also, the fact that the PLO is ready, officially for the first time, to accept and talk about the "land for peace" formula is a clear indication of the positive change.

This is not to say that this is the end of the road as far as the Palestinian problem is concerned; it is just a beginning of a hard process that lies ahead. The questions that raise themselves in the new development are numerous, and most, if not all of them, have to be addressed before a real window of opportunity is opened for peace.

The final point has apparently not been reached. PLO envoys are currently touring important Arab capitals to test their pulse on the new approach, and a crucial meeting of the top Palestinian leadership is being scheduled for Tunis later this week. It is just a little bit early perhaps to expect the emergence of a final stand on the issue. King Fahd and President Mubarak are both going to Washington shortly, and the PLO leaders would naturally be reluctant to make their position clear before the two leaders' return. The outcome of these activities will largely depend on what Washington has to say. For now, however, the important thing is to keep the issue alive and moving ahead.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Europe needs Mideast peace

SPEECHES EXCHANGED at a banquet in Amman Sunday between King Hussein and the West German president revealed that there are a number of points on which the two countries agree. These speeches also pointed to the importance of resolving the Middle East question on a just and permanent basis that would ensure the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

The two leaders agreed on the need for establishing peace which could not be durable and comprehensive unless it recognised the rights of peoples living in this area. Peace, they said, would bring with it stability that this region needs and that which Europe requires, because the Europeans are linked with the people of this region throughout history and continue to maintain strong cultural and economic and trade relations with its people.

Jordan has always displayed keenness on allowing the Europeans to play a role in finding a just settlement to the problem because it believes that the establishment of peace is the work of the whole international community, particularly the Europeans, who live closely to this region. Jordan has over the years endeavoured to strengthen its relations with Germany and the other countries of the European Community in the hope of saving the Middle East from polarisation and keeping alive a momentum for reaching peace.

Al Dustour: Peace promotes cooperation

JORDAN WARMLY welcomes the West German president and takes pride in the strong friendship that links it with the West German people. The relations between the two countries have been marked with cooperation and mutual respect, and serve as a good example for inter-relations among world nations.

Jordan appreciates West German contributions that are helping it to carry out its development projects and is grateful for Bonn's assistance and loans which enabled this country to improve and develop. This successful cooperation could be even greater had there been a permanent peace in the Middle East. The president stressed this point clearly at a banquet in his honour given by King Hussein. He said that concerned parties should not allow this chance of peace to be lost and should make every possible effort for removing the threat of war.

For his part, King Hussein reiterated Jordan's demand for the establishment of a just and durable peace based on U.N. Security Council resolutions. He referred to Israel's attempts to destroy all chances of peace by refusing to implement U.N. resolutions and exchange land for peace. The King also called for the participation of the Palestinian people in any peace effort.

No doubt the European Community which is linked with the people of this region through culture, trade and friendship can and should play a more serious role in establishing a permanent peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: More active EC role

SPEECHES EXCHANGED at the dinner banquet by King Hussein and the West German president reflect the long-standing friendship between Jordan and West Germany. This friendship has been evident in the form of trade and economic and technological cooperation between the two countries, and also through Bonn's continued support for Jordan's economic projects. Jordan is grateful for the West German people for their assistance and help which enabled Jordan to develop and progress and hopes that this strong relationship will be maintained and strengthened further.

The president, in a speech at the banquet, made it clear that peace in the Middle East cannot be realised without due respect to international principles and laws which denounce the use of force. Jordan's views are identical with those of West Germany in this respect and continue to work for the establishment of peace in this region.

King Hussein spoke of the importance of implementing U.N. resolutions so that peace can be achieved and the Palestinians can regain their rights in their homeland.

An Arabian tale

By Rami G. Khouri

ONCE UPON a time, far away in an enchanted Arabian land, where the sun shined brightly most of the days of the year, and young children respected their elders, there lived a wise old man from the desert named Abu Mansaf.

He lived simply, with few material possessions, but he was a happy old man. Abu Mansaf could hardly recall a day in his long life when he had not thanked his Lord for the blessings of a simple Arab life in the desert. He had his family around him all the time, his herds of goat, sheep, and even a few camels (though, he often thought to himself, camels were not appreciated as much today as they were in the old days). He had a sturdy home that he loved, a tent made of goat's hair, which he moved twice a year. In the summer, he took his family to the cool hills to the east, where water, pasture and friends were plentiful. In the winter, he packed

up and travelled west with his family, possessions and herds, setting up house to the lush orchards near the salty lake.

One day, Abu Mansaf went to the city, to buy some things he needed. After finishing his errands, he decided to call in at a coffee-house, where years ago he used to drink tea with some friends he had made as a child. He walked into the coffee-house and immediately spotted Abu Musakhhan, a dear old friend he had not seen for at least ten years.

Abu Musakhhan had lived a hard life. As a young man, he and his family had to leave their village in the lands west of the river, because a great war had erupted and their village was taken over by armed strangers from foreign lands. Abu Musakhhan grew up in some sort of a camp, not far from Abu Mansaf's winter home, in the warm valley where there was always plenty of chicken and tomatoes to eat.

Like Abu Mansaf, Abu Musakhhan also grew up in a tent. But his was not made of goat's hair. It was stitched together from old burlap sacks that once contained flour that was doated to Abu Musakhhan's people by strangers from foreign lands. When they were young men, Abu Mansaf and Abu Musakhhan spent much time together during the winter. Abu Mansaf herded his goats and sheep, and regularly brought them to Abu Musakhhan's land to eat some of the remains of his fields.

So when Abu Mansaf and his old friend Abu Musakhhan saw one another in the coffee-house in the city, they hugged and kissed each other and sat down to talk of old times. Abu Mansaf took out his rababa and played a tune. They rolled some cigarettes, drank tea, and remembered the simple days of long ago. They would spend the entire afternoon talking and recalling their years together.

But Abu Musakhhan interrupted the happy conversation, and turned on the radio to listen to the news from London.

They listened to the headlines, shook their heads, rolled another cigarette, ordered more tea, turned off the radio, and resumed their reminiscences about life long ago.

"What is the news from Musakhhan these days?", Abu Mansaf asked his friend.

"May God give him strength," Abu Musakhhan replied, his eyes sparkling slightly with both pride and resignation. "He went away two years ago, saying he would join the fighters who will return us to our homes one day."

"Inshallah," Abu Mansaf said, picking up his rababa, and tuning it to play another song. "And how is Mansaf?"

Abu Musakhhan asked his old friend.

"May God give him strength," Abu Mansaf said.

"He went away two years ago to imbecile to study," Abu Musakhhan asked.

"He wanted to be a doctor," Abu Mansaf replied proudly, but added, "we did not have enough money to send him to a doctor's school, so now he is learning to become an aeronautical engineer. He says he wants to design spaceships."

"Inshallah," Abu Musakhhan said, straightening out his headress.

They talked all afternoon, until the sun went down, and Abu Mansaf said he had to return to his family. They turned on the radio to hear the news one more time, while they finished their last cup of tea, and shared a few more stories about old friends, and old times. In the background, the radio news said that the "burlaman" had met again and recessed for a few months, an attack in Lebanon, something about Sudan, and something

about an Arab summit.

But Abu Mansaf and Abu Musakhhan were not really listening at that point. They had finished their tea, smoked their cigarettes, put away the rababa, and worn their coats. They walked out of the coffee-house, fortified against the cold night air of the city by the joy of seeing one another and exchanging many happy memories, and the knowledge that they would meet again one day.

"May God be with you, and give Mansaf a long life," Abu Musakhhan said, embracing Abu Mansaf and kissing him four times.

"And may God be with you, too, and give Musakhhan a long life," Abu Mansaf said, embracing Abu Musakhhan and giving him four kisses in return.

Back in the coffee-house, the radio was still on.

Illness, talk of succession mark Chernenko anniversary

By Charles Bremner

MOSCOW — Ailing and absent from the public eye, Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko will soon end his first year in office amid much speculation over his likely successor.

Officials have made little effort to deny that illness has kept the 73-year-old president away from his engagements since Dec. 27, though a Foreign Ministry spokesman this week said he was now on holiday.

Mr. Chernenko's bad health — he has respiratory trouble — has forced the cancellation of a Warsaw Pact summit in Bulgaria and a visit to Moscow by former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Diplomats say the relative openness on the illness seems to reflect acceptance of Mr. Chernenko's role as an interim leader. The politburo's youngest member, 53-year-old Mikhail Gorbachev, is widely regarded as the heir apparent. But analysts

do not rule out politburo member Grigory Romanov, 61, with Moscow City party boss Viktor Grishin, 70, an obvious choice if the politburo "old guard" opts for another transitional leader.

Since his appointment last Feb. 13, Mr. Chernenko has been seen by informed Russians and foreign analysts as a figure whose age, ill health and lack of political authority would condemn him to playing a minor role in Soviet history.

His record over the past year, both in domestic and foreign policy, appears to have borne this out, the diplomats say.

If his influence could be linked to any event it was probably to the return to dialogue with the United States and the agreement to start arms talks next month, diplomats said.

Moscow appeared to speed much of the past year unable to define future strategy after its walk-out from arms negotiations in late 1983.

After boycotting the Los Angeles Olympics and the emergence

of strains in its normally smooth relations with East Germany and other East European allies, Moscow gave up its hard, isolationist line in the autumn.

As a long-time close aide of the late Leonid Brezhnev, Mr. Chernenko shares his mentor's belief in détente, which he described in November as "a natural state".

However some analysts saw the shift more as the result of a consensus among Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and other senior figures that the time was ripe to switch course.

In contrast to the brief reign of his predecessor Yuri Andropov, Mr. Chernenko's time in office has brought with it little noticeable change for ordinary Russians.

"People were afraid of Andropov at first, then they came to respect him," one Muscovite said of the austere former security service chief who launched a crackdown on slacking and corruption when he succeeded Mr. Brezhnev in November 1982.

"With Chernenko, things have gone back a bit to Brezhnev's ways, but not completely. No-one has any particular feelings about him," the Muscovite added.

As Mr. Brezhnev's protégé, Mr. Chernenko was seen as the choice of the conservative, entrenched party apparatus, which had been badly shaken by Mr. Andropov's clean-up campaign.

However, the Chernenko leadership, regarded as a collective combining "old guard" and younger politburo figures, has maintained the drive against corruption, at least in public statements and a few spectacular actions.

Mr. Brezhnev's former close friend and Interior Minister Nikolai Shcholkov, sacked by Mr. Andropov, was stripped of his general's rank and died facing corruption charges in December.

The manager of Moscow's best food store was executed by firing squad in July.

But the impression, according to diplomats and many ordinary

Russians, is that Mr. Andropov's discipline drive has lost momentum.

On the economic front, the Kremlin has broadened a programme of reforms launched under Mr. Andropov. But Western analysts say much of their power has been neutralised by a lack of top-level political backing.

While Mr. Chernenko regularly inveighs against bureaucracy in his long speeches, he has also asserted the role of the party apparatus maintaining its tight control of economic life.

Diplomats say this effectively ensures that managers are deprived of the chance of taking the kind of independent initiatives called for under the reform programmes.

Though he has called for modernisation and intensification of the country's sagging economy, Mr. Chernenko's most striking initiative so far has been the launch of an ambitious agricultural scheme that takes the opposite course.

The plan, which envisages the cultivation of thousands of square kilometres of "virgin" land in eastern Russia and Central Asia, harks back to grandiose projects implemented under Josef Stalin and Nikita Khrushchev.

Mr. Chernenko has also turned to the past in culture. He has fiercely condemned Western influences in the arts and demanded a return to the old Bolshevik values of the "positive hero" and indoctrinated socialist realism developed under Stalin.

Mr. Chernenko has also shown a fondness for another past practice shunned by Mr. Andropov — the glorification of the Communist Party leader.

Unlike Mr. Andropov, Mr. Chernenko has appeared in public with his wife, he has received medals in elaborate ceremonies and he has allowed glowing tributes to his personal qualities to be published in the state media.

In the most striking manifestation of a "personality cult", his previously unknown exploits as a draftee border guard in Central Asia in the 1930s have been commemorated in newspaper articles and a film recently released in Moscow.

Diplomats say some of the drive to project Mr. Chernenko's personality is aimed at allaying the image of weakness projected by the lack of direction from his leadership and his poor performance as a public speaker.

Statements carrying Mr. Chernenko's signature have become so frequent in his absence that one West European embassy reported back to its capital this week that the main item in the day's press was the lack of the president's signature.

Arab News



Pinochet seeks to tighten hold in Chile

By Simon Alterman

SANTIAGO — President Augusto Pinochet has renewed Chile's state of siege to consolidate his control of the media and curb political dissent as well as to crush street violence, both supporters and opponents say.

The government announced Saturday that the state of siege emergency powers, imposed last Nov. 6 after a wave of clashes with security forces, were being extended for a further 90 days because they had allegedly been effective in controlling "terrorism."

But politicians from both pro-government and opposition parties say they are convinced that General Pinochet's prime concern is to consolidate his control of the media as part of a wider campaign to crush political opposition.

They see signs that he is now taking the advice of hardline right-wingers, both civilian and military, who want to continue to impose an authoritarian political model by force, while traditional conservatives become increasingly disaffected.

All cautioned that throughout his 11 years in power, Gen. Pinochet has taken care never to throw in his lot fully with any one group or faction and that a new and more conciliatory political initiative cannot be ruled out.

The crackdown on the media and the eclipse of Interior Minister Sergio Jara and his policy of trying to negotiate with non-Marxist opponents on a transition to democracy has upset even supporters of the constitution, which keeps Gen. Pinochet in power at

least until 1989.

"I think that this is one of the government's most dangerous projects," said one leading pro-Pinochet politician who declined to be named. "It will lead to his isolation and that is suicidal. Monies saw that."

He was referring to Monica Madariaga, a relative and close confidant of the president, who last week was forced to give up her job as ambassador to the Organisation of American States after saying in an interview that she no longer agreed with the way the government was being run.

As her comments were written replies to questions from the generally pro-government magazine Que Pasa, politicians said her message was unequivocal. Government supporters are letting go," said Mario Sharpe, president of the moderate opposition Social Democratic Party. "The government has lost support among civilian sectors."

Groups across the political spectrum have complained that the state of siege has given Gen. Pinochet virtually no powers to fight guerrilla violence that he did not already have.

"States of exception are not for repressing terrorism. They are for repressing dissidence," commented Roberto Garretón, a lawyer with the Catholic Church's human rights organisation, the Vicaría de Solidaridad.

In particular, the government has used the state of siege to silence or censor the opposition press, to ban all media from reporting news of guerrilla violence, and to impose strict restrictions on private or public meetings.

Meanwhile, it has installed the

head of the government information office as director of state television, has sacked the head of news and senior journalists from another channel and, according to informed press sources, has engineered the firing of the editor of the daily La Tercera de La Hora.

The sources said that through state-run banks which are the biggest creditors of La Tercera and the even more powerful El Mercurio group, the government has tried to ensure that the dailies do not deviate from what was in any case a favourable line.

Government Secretary-General Francisco Cuadra, appointed as minister responsible for the press on the day the state of siege was imposed, told foreign correspondents last week that he had met the owners of La Tercera but denied that he had discussed the editorial or the paper's editorial line.

He did not demur, however, when it was suggested that the ban on political news was being applied irregularly, with pro-government news, interviews and comment allowed but all opposition viewpoints denied access to the media.

Mr. Cuadra said the opposition press and politicians were to blame for the state of siege and suggested that it would not be lifted until they abandoned their 18-month-old strategy of calling popular protests to press for political change, which he said created an atmosphere that encouraged violence.

"Many of the media which are censored or suspended were acting as vehicles for insurrection... as a general rule, the opposition

made it easier for extremist sectors," he said.

"We are not going to end the state of siege so that four days later, they can call a new protest and two weeks later we have to go and collect 20 bodies from the streets at two in the morning. Obviously not," he added.

Denying charges that the security forces were responsible for more than 100 protest deaths, he rejected Mr. Madariaga's suggestion that both government and opposition should make major political concessions.

He commented that a curfew had been lifted and some of more than 600 people sent into internal exile in the last three months had been allowed home.

He suggested that the government's political strategy was to wait for moderate sections of the opposition, such as Mr. Sharpe's Social Democrats, to abandon the left and stop criticising the constitution.

The Social Democrats, however, were the first to come to the public defence of the Communist-led Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) when it was branded unconstitutional last week.

They, like other opposition parties in the non-Marxist Democratic Alliance Coalition, reject the MDP's policy of violent struggle but said ideas could not be outlawed.

The MDP, which regards itself as the heir to the Popular Unity Coalition of the late Salvador Allende, ousted in a bloody 1973 coup, led by Gen. Pinochet is planning to intensify its activities with a new day of protest on March 27.

LETTERS

Jordan won our respect

To the Editor:

SINCE RETIREMENT from governmental and industrial occupations some 10 years ago, my wife and I have spent travel holidays in some 25 countries.

Recently we came, belatedly, to Jordan, including the West Bank; we found the experience both enriching and distressing. Prior to our visit, we had an informed observer's understanding of the Arab-Israeli conflict, having been to other Arab countries. We now realise how relatively little we knew.

We were deeply affected after viewing the actual territories and talking with many of the people who live in them.

In World War I, there was the phrase "gallant little Belgium". Today, there should surely be corresponding support for "gallant little Jordan", where seems to reside the largest measure of statesmanship, tolerance, and initiative, limited only by human and other resources.

You won our respect and good-will. We sincerely wish you ultimate peace and equitable satisfaction.

Richard Hopkins, CBE,
Borodale, Kirkcubrick Avenue,
Harpden, Herts,
U.K., Eogland

Each has his humour

To the Editor:

MAY I thank you for publishing my letter in your Jan. 24-25 issue, and also Mr. Boulos Salameh's reply on Jan. 27 1985.

May I assure Mr. Salameh that I did not miss the point of Ms. Assal's letter (Jordan Times, Jan. 14, 1985). What I wished to point out was that in calling an obviously well-educated and intelligent person dumb just because his sense of humour does not coincide with hers is not only insulting but also uncalled for. And what makes Mr. Salameh think that his suggested joke is any funnier to a majority of viewers?

Since reading Ms. Assal's letter, I have checked on the content of the news item she took strong objection to, and I have found that it had nothing to do with dog racing but rather showed a sled being pulled by huskies, so comments about prize money and chunks of meat would have been totally irrelevant.

Mr. Salameh has also taken the remark following the plane crash out of context, and it should be noted that before the line he quoted, the newscaster had expressed his concern by saying "miraculously nobody was injured". So much for the grieving relatives.

In agreeing that we need cheering up and that a touch of humour can help, Mr. Salameh proves that he and I have a similar outlook; it is merely our sense of humour that differs and surely this is what makes us individuals. As they say in Britain, "it takes all sorts to make a world".

I would also like to add a statistical footnote: Based upon an annual fee of JD 12,000, switching off a 15 minute news broadcast whose content one finds offensive would waste 0.342 of 1 ffs, and it's always possible to go and make a cup of tea or perform other necessary tasks during this peaceful interlude.

Mr. L.G. Cooper,
Amman

Israeli harassment of Dheishe residents goes on

DHEISHEH — The barricades are back up at Dheisheh, a Palestinian refugee camp, just south of Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, and UNRWA's services to the camp's 6,000 residents have been affected as a result.

All roads into the camp are now blocked by stacks of cement-filled barrels topped by sharp iron bars and coils of barbed wire. Only one narrow pedestrian entrance, at the far northern end of the camp, remains open.

The new blockages — the most recent one was completed by the Israeli authorities in mid-January — left the camp clinic and the office of the camp services officer isolated from the centre of the camp, until UNRWA engineers opened a gate in an internal wall. The gate allowed the agency's sanitation labourers to get in and out with the wheelbarrow in which they cart rubbish to the garbage skip located just outside the camp's front gate. Now, residents use the same internal gate to get to the clinic,

which sees about 100 patients a day.

Circuitous journey

Still, because the front gate is kept locked for security reasons, camp residents must make a circuitous journey through Dheisheh's steep, winding alleyways in order to get to the main road to visit nearby shops or to catch buses and taxis to work. One of the few exits involves crossing the yard and ratio of one family's shelter. Getting anywhere is particularly difficult for the camp's elderly and disabled residents.

The Israeli military authorities who govern the West Bank erected the barriers following incidents in which stones were thrown from inside or nearby the camp at passing Israeli cars and buses. Dheisheh sprawls for about a kilometre alongside the main Jerusalem-Hebron highway, which carries traffic to and from the big Jewish settlement of Kiryat

Arba near Hebron.

The leader of the Kiryat Arba settlers, Rabbi Moshe Levinger, has been living in a van parked opposite Dheisheh since mid-October in a "sit-in" over the stone-throwing incidents.

Rabbi Levinger maintains that the Israeli government has not done enough to guarantee the security of Jewish travellers along the Hebron road. But his protest is aimed mostly at the camp itself. Sometimes he stands with a rock in his hand glaring at Dheisheh residents across the road. He is often armed, and nearly always accompanied by Israeli soldiers or armed civilians from his settlers' movement.

UNRWA has asked the Israeli authorities to move Rabbi Levinger and his followers away from in front of the camp, but they reply that he is not breaking any law. Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset (parliament) on Jan. 9, that Rabbi Levinger had been given military

protection "in order to maintain security at the site", but that the rabbi had been banned from entering the camp.

"Leave this camp"

Organised groups of Israeli settlers, and militants led by Knesset member Rabbi Meir Kahane, have on occasion entered Dheisheh with the avowed intent of inciting or intimidating the residents. In November, a group from the "Jewish settlements council for Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district" entered the camp at night and distributed leaflets in Arabic urging the residents to "leave this camp and move to other places".

Inside the wall and behind the barriers, Dheisheh seethes. Its narrow alleyways lack the bustling village atmosphere of other Palestinian refugee camps. Residents stick close to their homes with their families, seldom venturing out. Many shops, kiosks and cafes

are closed and shuttered.

Early in the morning, the women of the camp trudge up and down the steep pathways with their shopping baskets. Occasionally, an ageing car belching smoke threads its way along the one open road, a bumpy, rocky track which winds down to the main highway from a distant rear entrance on the hilltop.

In the afternoon, when the children are home from school and the menfolk from work, quiet descends. At night, the camp is eerily lit by searchlights atop tall towers from the Israeli army post opposite the sealed main entrance.

Day in, day out, armed Israeli patrols circulate throughout Dheisheh, and peer down from look-out posts on the roofs of buildings inside the camp.

Tired of visitors

Dheisheh residents say they have wearied of visits by well-intentioned outsiders which have failed to alleviate living conditions in the camp. Almost daily, delegations troop through on inspection tours: foreign journalists, television crews, parliamentarians, diplomats and government officials from the U.S., Western Europe, Canada and Australia, representatives of voluntary relief or religious organisations, even Israeli officials.

The camp has become a focal point of attention, but for its residents, things seem to get worse, not better. One angry resident positions himself just inside the blocked main entrance and taunts visitors: "How do you like the scenery?" he shouts, gesturing at the rusty barricade of barrels and barbed wire. "What is the use of all your visits?"

Those who put the barricades there often point to the camp's youths as trouble-makers and stone-throwers. Some camp residents defend those who throw stones as budding "resistance fighters" and say the concentration-camp-like conditions only heighten youthful resentment and militancy.

For UNRWA's teaching staff in the camp, however, it is a different story. There are three schools in Dheisheh, with 1,699 pupils: 866 in the combined boys' elementary and preparatory (junior secondary) school, 349 in girls' elementary classes and 484 in girls' preparatory. They are supervised by 46 teachers, who see it as their job as much to keep the children busy and out of trouble as to conduct classes.



Blocked-up main entrance to Dheisheh blocked up for a second time.

Keeping order

The teachers come early and stay late to keep the pupils in line and make sure they don't linger after classes. Although the Youth Activities Centre at Dheisheh is closed, like many others in the West Bank, sports, social and arts committees have been formed in the schools to organise recreational activities.

"We must prevent any incidents because they reflect on us and could cause the interruption of studies," says Khaled Saif, a boys' elementary teacher, who points out that his school was once closed by the authorities for two months. "If we discovered that a stone was thrown from our school, we wouldn't keep it open," he adds. "Our main concern is to keep the school running. These are our children, too."

When the authorities recently asked UNRWA to have the yard in front of the boys' school surfaced, to remove the temptation of loose stones that had been lying about, the teachers and students themselves organised and carried out the project. They brought in a contractor with a cement mixer and wheelbarrows, and worked on the project during activities periods and after school hours. The boys clearly enjoyed themselves, while doing their bit to improve the security of their camp.

At the same time, the agency opened rear entrances behind

each school to permit the children to come and go without having to walk alongside the busy and dangerous highway. And the agency installed a high chain-link security fence in front of the clinic, supplementary feeding centre and camp services office to keep irascible passers-by out.

Constant harassment

After one previously demolished barricade was re-erected sealing a major entrance to Dheisheh, UNRWA engineers built the gate for the sanitation men. All garbage has to be removed from Dheisheh by hand, since the back road and narrow pathways won't accommodate garbage trucks. UNRWA workers have also opened channels at the base of the barriers to allow waste water to flow freely out of the camp.

Dheisheh's residents insist they are anxious to avoid trouble, even in the face of what they see as constant harassment and provocation from outside. Once, according to one teacher, shots were fired into the camp from a passing bus; the driver claimed that a stone had been thrown from the schoolyard. Several youths were taken away for questioning, which has become a regular occurrence. Residents say there is not one of the camp's 1,100 resident families which has not had at least one member det-

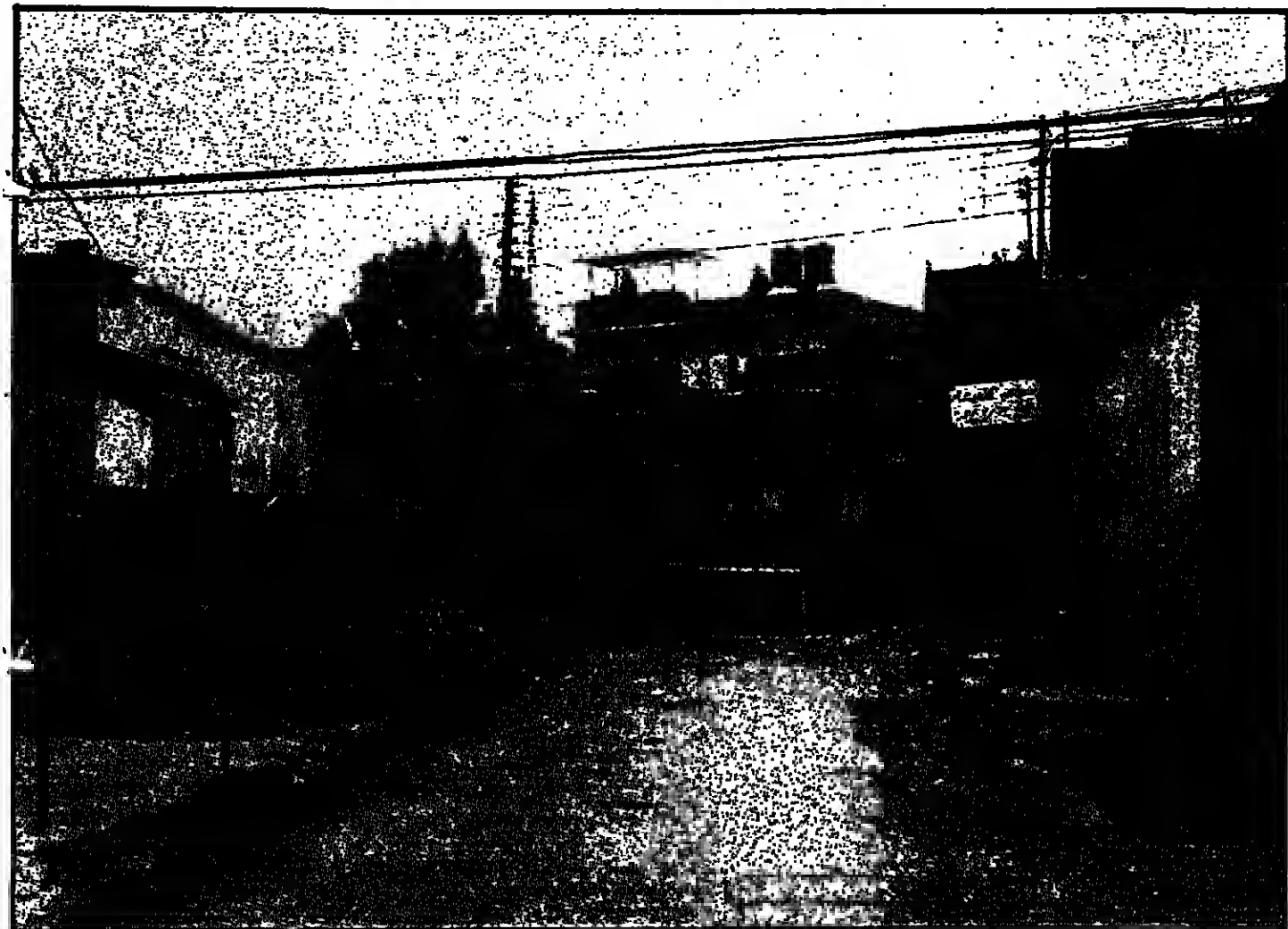
ained at one time or another.

What worries the residents most — even more and above the psychological pressures of living virtually under siege — are the deteriorating economic conditions prevailing in the West Bank. Palestinians have been hard-hit by Israel's economic crisis. Their jobs are often the first to be eliminated.

Virtually everyone who can work tries to find work. Students feel mounting pressure to drop out of school to go to work to help their families, despite the supreme importance all Palestine refugees place on education.

In one household in Dheisheh, the 80-year-old patriarch, whose grandchildren are educated and have well-paying jobs, still feels obliged to continue working as a street-sweeper in Bethlehem to help keep the family afloat. Like most Dheisheh residents, he was originally a farmer from the coastal areas of Palestine.

UNRWA has managed to keep services functioning in Dheisheh despite all the pressures and problems. This sometimes means walking a fine line between the requirements and concerns of the refugees and those of the authorities. Dheisheh is a symbol of contradictions and tensions arising from the absence of a political solution to the Palestine question, which would allow UNRWA to pass on to others its vital service-providing role — UNRWA report.



General view of Dheisheh camp, south of Bethlehem, West Bank.

Artifacts recall tragedy of 'Donner party'

By Donald J. Frederick

WASHINGTON — Hundreds of bone fragments and a number of artifacts related to one of the most tragic episodes during the years of the pioneer push westward have been uncovered in California's Yumer Memorial Park.

The bone fragments and other objects, including a silver brooch and earring, jewelry beads, brass buttons, rifle balls, a religious medal, and a spoon fashioned from bone, were found at the site of a crude log cabin built by the Murphy family.

The Murphys were part of the ill-fated Donner party, which was on its way to California, but became stranded in the rugged Sierra Nevada during the harsh winter of 1846-47.

Trapped by raging blizzards and huge drifts, 81 people, many of them children, were forced to take shelter in hastily built cabins, tents, lean-tos, even a bus wigwag.

Incredible acts of fortitude, self-sacrifice, and heroism followed, but the hard-pressed pioneers also had to endure a nightmare that included robbery, murder, starvation, and cannibalism. Only 47 of them finally arrived at Sutter's Fort in California.

"I have a lot of sympathy for the Donner party," says Donald L. Hardesty, a University of Nevada, Reno, anthropologist who directed the excavation at the Murphy cabin site. "Those people made some poor decisions, but they also suffered unbelievable streaks of bad luck."

Professor Hardesty, whose work was supported by the National Geographic Society, found the site of the Murphy cabin exactly where it was supposed to be — near a large triangular rock in the park.

Because the cabin had to be hastily erected, it was built on the ground without any flooring. The crude logs and other material that formed the structure have long since vanished.

But careful excavation of the area revealed the building's dimensions. "The large size surprised me," says Prof. Hardesty. "It was a square cabin with walls about 25 feet long. The rock probably helped form one of the walls."

Scene of horror

According to contemporary

accounts, Brig. — Gen. Stephen W. Kearney and some of his troops visited the Donner camp in the spring of 1847, only weeks after the last of the group had been rescued. Appalled by the spectacle of dismembered bodies and stripped bones, he ordered a mass burial of the remains. Legend says this was done in the Murphy cabin, which was then burned to the ground.

"I haven't found any evidence that this took place there," says Prof. Hardesty. "My suspicion is that most of the bone fragments we found belonged to animals that were cooked and eaten in the cabin. There may be some human remains, but I don't think they'll be numerous enough to support the mass-burial theory. It will probably take weeks of study to

determine which, if any, are human fragments."

Prof. Hardesty feels that if there was a burial in the cabin it was only a cursory one. "There are tales of people wandering around the Donner camp and picking up human bones as souvenirs for years afterward," he points out — National Geographic feature.



Struggling through deep snow, the Donner party

pushes towards a pass in the Sierra Nevada mon-

tain in an effort to avoid being trapped. They were

forced to spend the winter below the pass.

Sicily struggles to stem Mafia tide

Alan Friedman, recently in Palermo, reports on the growing power of the mafiosi in southern Italy, and the strong passions it arouses among the local populace.

PALERMO — It was a moment of silent drama. In a packed lecture hall at the University of Palermo in Italy, a crowd of more than 200 politicians, priests, judges, professors, students and widows of slain officials listened as the local leader of the Communist Party concluded a 30-minute call for unity against the Mafia.

"And now," declared Mr. Figurelli, his voice rising steadily, "we of the Communist Party would like to publicly give our best wishes to the Christian Democrats of Sicily. May you work well in the public interest."

As Mr. Figurelli sat down the packed hall suddenly went still. The faces of the people in the audience were full of surprise and then determination. One man at the rear of the hall began applauding and soon everyone joined in.

"Can you see how emotional this is for us?" whispered Dr. Leoluca Orlando, the vice-commissioner of Palermo. "All of these people from all of these political backgrounds are together. This is the other Sicily. We cannot tolerate the bloody violence any more."

The political and social unity of the meeting was truly unusual. On a cold January evening, this group of honest and frustrated citizens was banded together for nearly

three hours. The occasion was a memorial designed to commemorate Mr. Pier Santi Matteredella, the Christian Democrat president of the region of Sicily, who was murdered by the Mafia five years ago.

The killing of Mr. Matteredella, like the assassination in 1982 of Gen. Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, the special high commissioner against the Mafia, was regarded by Palermo's anti-Mafia establishment as an attack upon the state. Speaker after speaker — and these included priests, Socialists, Christian Democrats and Communists — repeated that the Italian state was under siege in Sicily. Some said the state had already been defeated by the Mafia.

Despite all the recent publicity surrounding the revelations of arrested godfather Mr. Tommaso Buscetta, whose breaking of the Mafia code of silence led in the arrest of 366 mafiosi, there is no sense of victory in Palermo. "To be honest I must say that the Mafia in Sicily is now stronger than the state," says Mr. Lillo Mannino, the former agriculture minister recently elected regional secretary of the Christian Democrat Party, the leading political force on the island.

Mr. Mannino's job, for which he was handpicked by the National Christian Democrat headquarters

in Rome, is to unify the Christian Democrats, to try and reduce Mafia infiltration of the party's ranks and most urgently to select a Christian Democrat regional president. The last regional president resigned at Christmas and Palermo has been without a mayor for two months.

Palioci in Sicily, which revolves largely around power struggles inside the ruling Christian Democrat Party, has been in a continuous state of paralysis since the 1982 killing of Gen. Dalla Chiesa. In this vacuum the Mafia has flourished and the lecture hall meeting reflected the feelings this has aroused.

The people present displayed a depth of emotion one could more easily associate with anti-Nazi resistance fighters than with Italian citizens living in 1985.

The past five years in Sicily have been a testing time of bloodshed and conflict. The Mafia, made powerful by billions of dollars of heroin-related income, is more ruthless than ever. "The people are living in a period analogous to the 1940s, when we had in go underground to resist fascists and Nazis," says Dr. Orlando, one of the few politicians to speak openly about the Mafia.

Dr. Orlando and others reckon that Palermo has become an ungovernable city. Five mayors have come into office and resigned during the last year. "No mayor can govern for fear of offending mafiosi," explains Dr. Orlando. If the

city has a building contract to offer then the mayor or officials are threatened by mafiosi, he says. "The Mafia exerts rigid control."

Publicly, Italian officials claim they are making progress in the battle against the Mafia. But the reality is that in much of Sicily, and particularly in the stronghold of Palermo, the Mafia is the effective ruling authority.

Consider this example of life in Palermo: as the lecture hall meeting was taking place a leading anti-Mafia magistrate, Dr. Giovanni Falcone, was being driven across Palermo (from office to home) in his normal, everyday minitruce of four screaming Alfa Romeo police cars with 11 armed bodyguards to protect him. A fellow magistrate, Mr. Rocca Chinnici, was gunned down in 1983.

"I sometimes ask myself," said a politician after the meeting, "if it is possible to be Sicilian and at the same time civilised."

Gesturing to the Communists, Don Giacomo Ribauda, a local parish priest, said: "My presence here tonight, with a political party which is hardly a supporter of the church, is an expression that we must work together for justice."

And so the unusual public meeting came to an end, the audience filing out in near silence. It seemed like a frightening scene out of a Hollywood film, but sadly for the people of Palermo, this was real life — Financial Times news feature.

Raw whaleskin back on Greenland's menu

By Michael Duggan
Reuter

COPENHAGEN — Greenlanders have been chewing a lot of raw whaleskin, a traditional celebratory dish, over the last few days to mark the departure of their vast Arctic island from the European Community Friday, a month later than planned.

The land settled by Viking Eric the Red a thousand years ago and a Danish possession since 1380 has now entered history books as the first territory to leave the European Community. By leaving, it halves the community's land mass.

It was Eric, coming from Iceland, who first dubbed the country "Greenland" in what some historians think was a slightly und-

erhand way of drawing settlers to the ice-covered wastes.

The inhabitants total only 50,000 today and are largely native Inuits who live off hunting and fishing. They dislike being called Eskimos since the name, meaning "Eater of raw meat", was apparently invented by North American tribes who thought themselves superior because they boiled their meat.

Few Greenlanders must be sorry to leave the European Community, which they joined with mainland Denmark in 1973.

After partial self-government was attained in 1979, 70 per cent of the population voted against membership in a 1982 referendum.

During their 12-year link with

the Community, the Greenlanders often showed resentment at being seen as "Europeans" — their island lies on the North American Continental Shelf — and indignation that their valuable fishing grounds were included in Community territorial waters.

Greenland's final weeks in the Community were marked by high-level bargaining and low farce.

The departure date was supposed to be Jan. 1 this year but the Irish Parliament, alone among the Community members, failed to ratify the agreement in time.

This meant the Community could not start paying Greenland a sum of around \$20 million a year in return for European fishermen being granted the right to fish in

Greenland's waters.

Angered by the hold-ups, the leader of Greenland's home-rule government, Lutheran Priest Jonathan Motzfeldt, said he wanted interest paid on the delayed cash.

A further wrangle arose over fish quotas, when biologists reported that stocks of cod off Greenland were too low to allow the maximum catches laid down in the five-year pact, an announcement which hit West German fishermen particularly hard.

The solution was hammered out in Brussels at five o'clock in the morning two days before departure day, with Greenland volunteering to reduce its own catches and let Community fishermen make up for quotas they failed to meet last year.

Erika Hess storms back to reclaim combination title

BORMIO, Italy (R) — The Swiss avalanche continued to roll at the World Alpine Ski Championships Monday as holder Erika Hess stormed back to reclaim the combination title.

Hess, reigning World Cup overall champion and three times a winner at the 1982 World Championships in Schladming, became the third Swiss in two days to win a gold medal.

Rows of Swiss fans cheered and rang cowbells as Hess, 22, produced two near-perfect runs in Monday's slalom, which was combined with a downhill last Thursday.

"Now my confidence is back," a jubilant Hess said afterwards. "I knew the machinery was functioning okay but I wasn't sure if I could release the mechanism."

Austrian Sylvia Eder took the silver medal finishing sixth in the downhill and fifth in the slalom, while the third best time Monday gave American Tamara McKinney the bronze, despite her 22nd downhill placing.

For Hess, winner of 24 World Cup races in seven years, the medal compensated for a lean winter and disappointment at last year's Olympics when she was fifth in the slalom and seventh in the giant slalom.

"It is like coming out of the desert," she said. "This medal is worth even more than the ones in

Schladming because I have come back from such a tough time." Hess was only joint 16th in the combination downhill, won by team-mate Maria Walliser.

But the champion produced the two fastest runs on the Stelvio course Monday to clock up a combined time of one minute 30.79 seconds, 1.61 seconds ahead of Liechtenstein's Ursula Konzett.

Jordan to take part in Baghdad youth tennis

AMMAN (Petra) — A team representing the Jordanian Tennis Federation (JTF) has left for Baghdad to take part in an Arab tennis youth championship due to start Tuesday.

The four-day championship has been organised by the Arab Tennis Federation to mark the International Year of Youth. Taking part in the competitions are teams from Iraq, Palestine, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain,

Syria, and Sudan. The Jordanian team is led by Mr. Ishaq Jarallah, JTF's secretary general. Playing for Jordan are Iyyad Shehadeh and Ziad Dajani. Mr. Mowafiq Zuhbi also headed for Baghdad to represent Jordan at the Arab Tennis Federation's meetings.

Discussions at the meetings will centre on 1985 plan for the federation as well as drawing up a tournaments programme for the current year.

"After the first run I didn't even know I was in the lead in the combined competition. I didn't want to know."

Walliser finished 21st in the combined competition after 24th

Aero-modelling club formed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly established Jordanian Aero-modelling club recently held their first meeting and elected the club's executive committee. Zaid Touqan was named president of the club, Aziz Musa vice president, Bouthan Abdul Hamid secretary, Salim Abu Hajj treasurer, Dr. Salah Salah and Sultan Haz'a as members.

The club's headquarters and fields are situated 50 km north east of Amman and hosts a number of sports other than model planes flying. The club has facilities for tennis, gliding, swimming, golf, handball, basketball, table tennis and a children's playground. Also at the site is a landing pad for vertical take-off planes.

Gadusek claims Florida tennis

MARCO ISLAND, Florida (R) — Defending champion Bonnie Gadusek Sunday came back to claim her crown by defeating Pam Casale 6-3, 6-4 in the all-American final of the \$140,000 women's tennis tournament here.

Gadusek played near-perfect tennis, committing only one unforced error in the first four games of the opening set. But the lead started to dwindle away as third-seeded Casale battled back to 4-3. "I knew that I had to hit out on the ball or else I might lose the set, and I'm not going to lose the set by being tentative," said Gadusek.

Swedish doctors working on blood doping test

By Alf Oest
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — Two Swedish doctors are working to develop a reliable test to detect blood doping among athletes seeking to boost their performance.

The research is in response to growing international concern that increasing numbers of athletes are resorting to blood doping in their quest for sporting success.

This month the U.S. Cycling Federation took disciplinary action against some of its officials for allowing members of the medal-winning U.S. Olympic cycling team to be blood doped at last year's Los Angeles Games.

There were also rumours that some competitors at last week's World Nordic Ski Championships in Austria were blood doped, although the allegations have been denied.

Swedish ski team doctor Peter Hemmingsson, who is researching detection methods with colleague Bo Berglund, told Reuters he had asked the International Olympic Committee and the International Ski Federation to help finance the research in which 12 skiers are to be used as subjects.

The blood doping process normally involves removing a quantity of blood from an athlete after an intense training period when the concentration of oxygen-bearing red blood cells is high.

The red corpuscles are stored for two weeks while the body

makes up the loss and are then returned to the athlete, greatly enhancing the amount of oxygen the blood can circulate.

Allegations of blood doping were first made nine years ago but in the absence of any reliable method of detection the technique has not been banned by international sports bodies.

However, Hemmingsson believes he has found the key to detecting whether the procedure has been used.

"The age distribution among the blood cells and the degree of their deterioration is larger in blood which has been stored and treated for later re-injection. There are also mechanical changes," he said.

In Hemmingsson's experiments, half his subject skiers will be blood doped. The research is aimed primarily at quantifying the changes which occur after transfusions but it is also hoped the experiments will determine whether the practice actually improves performance.

Hemmingsson hopes to present the results of the research at the International Ski Federation Congress in Vancouver this year.

Sweden finished third in the medals table behind Norway and Finland at the World Nordic Ski Championships in Seefeld, where Swedish skiers felt they were at a disadvantage competing against rivals they believed were blood doped.

The Stockholm evening news-

paper Aftonbladet quoted the head of the Seefeld Doping Control Committee, Ludvig Prokop, as saying he had seen several skiers with fresh needle marks on their arms.

"The marks could indicate blood doping, but at present there is no way we could find that out," Aftonbladet reported him as saying.

The president of the Swedish National Olympic Committee, Carl-Gustav Anderberg, said that as far as he knew there was no blood doping in Sweden.

"But it is a difficult problem for us to handle when there are no means of detecting it. For us in Sweden it is important to further any advances in detection methods so that our sportsmen can compete with other nations on a fair basis," Anderberg added.

There have been consistent allegations that Finland's outstanding Olympic distance runners were blood doped at the 1976 Montreal and 1980 Moscow Games.

Lasse Viren, 5,000 and 10,000 metres gold medalist in 1976 and 1980, has always denied the allegations.

But Kaarlo Maaninka, who took the 10,000 metres silver and 5,000 metres bronze medals at the 1980 Olympics, was reported afterwards to have admitted being blood doped.

Steeplechaser Mikko Alala-Leppilampi publicly admitted he and other Finnish athletes had

been blood doped at the 1972 Munich Olympics and Finland's team doctor in Munich, Pekka Peltokallio, later confirmed he had been responsible for blood doping Ala-Leppilampi.

In a recent television interview Finland's Eero Mantyranta, one of the giants of cross-country skiing who won Olympic gold medals in 1960 and 1964, said he was aware that some skiers were blood doped.

A Finnish local newspaper, Iisalmi Sanomat, recently claimed that stocks of blood intended for patients at the Kolonvirta mental hospital in central Finland had been used instead by the Finnish ski team competing at the 1978 World Games in Lahti.

During last week's Nordic Championships in Seefeld, Prokop, director of the Institute for Sports Medicine at Vienna University, said blood doping was not as effective as was generally believed.

"Yes, it does improve performance but not to the extent people think. Its effectiveness is very, very much overstated," he said.

Prokop, who has been involved in sports doping control since 1947, added that blood doped athletes risked high blood pressure and circulatory problems.

In the absence of a testing method, it was not yet possible to ban the procedure, but he added: "I would like blood doping to be on a warning list."

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Arab Banking Corporation assets rise sharply in 1984

BAHRAIN (R) — Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) said Monday its assets rose sharply during 1984, an increase which appears to put it among the 10 largest Arab banks.

It said the group's assets rose 26 per cent in 1984 to \$11.06 billion while its net profit after provisions for possible loan losses rose slightly to \$110 million from \$107 million.

The group acquired 70 per cent shareholding in 1984 in Spain's Banco Atlantico S.A. and holds a 93.5 per cent stake in Arab Banking Corporation-Daus and Co. of Frankfurt and 98 per cent of ABC-Banque Internationale de Monaco. It said provisions for possible loan losses were \$45 million in 1984 against \$20 million in the previous year.

Ranked according to assets, the group was the 11th largest Arab commercial bank at the end of 1983. The sharp asset rise in 1984, partly reflecting its acquisitions, seem likely to put it in the top 10.

The bank is owned jointly by the governments of Kuwait, Libya and the United Arab Emirates.

GATT panel rules in favour of U.S. in citrus fruit dispute

GENEVA (R) — The world trade organisation, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), has ruled in favour of the United States in a dispute over tariff preferences given by the European Community (EC) to several Mediterranean citrus fruit suppliers, a report showed Monday.

The study by a five-member GATT panel said the preferences on fresh oranges and lemons had substantially impaired U.S. citrus trade with the Community and upset competition between the U.S. and Mediterranean suppliers.

The panel told the Community to take action on limiting the adverse effect on U.S. exports by next October, possibly by reducing its most favoured nation tariff rates. It also ruled that the U.S. was entitled to compensation.

However, the European Community is to contest the ruling, which trade sources said affected fruit from Spain, Morocco and Israel.

Community officials noted that the panel had not found the bloc's practices to be contrary to GATT rules, and said they would ask the next GATT council meeting on March 12 to set the report aside. "We cannot accept it," one said.

Europe imports 1.6 million tonnes of fresh sweet oranges and about 250,000 tonnes of lemons every year, more than 75 per cent coming from Mediterranean countries and the rest from the U.S.

Riyadh contributes to IFAD

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia is committed to a \$156 million contribution to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), according to its chairman Mr. Idris Al Jazari.

He told the London-based newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat, which simultaneously publishes in Jeddah and Riyadh, that the commitment was made during talks he had with Saudi foreign, finance and agriculture ministers.

Mr. Jazari, who said he would go to the United States and Brussels to seek contributions to the fund, told reporters in Kuwait on Saturday that IFAD would face a crisis soon unless the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and Industrial donor nations quickly sort out differences over contributions.

He said, Iran once the second biggest donor, had stopped contributions altogether, as had Iraq and Libya.

Governors of Islamic central banks begin 2-day conference

ABU DHABI (R) — A gathering of central banks and monetary authorities of Islamic countries began a two-day conference Monday to discuss strengthening cooperation and increasing the flow of financial resources among them.

Opening the sixth meeting of the central banks of members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), Bangladesh finance adviser Mr. Syeduzzaman called for direct cooperation among financial institutions of the member countries to augment the flow of resources.

Mr. Syeduzzaman said members' policies on such monetary matters as interest rates, exchange rates and management of reserves should be coordinated to alleviate the adverse impact of the high volatility of exchange rate movements for major currencies.

Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, secretary general of the OIC, told the meeting that collective action by the Islamic countries was needed to set them on the path of self-reliance and integration of their economies into an Islamic common market.

Conference sources said governors and banking experts from 27 member countries of OIC are attending the meeting, which follows the ninth annual meeting of the board of governors of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB).

IDB president Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali is also attending the conference.

Lebanese pound crashes

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese pound crashed to a new record low of 15.10 at Monday's close, reflecting what dealers said was a lack of confidence in government efforts to stabilise the plunging currency.

The pound closed at 15.00/15.20 after opening at 12.50/13.50. Saturday's closing price was 13.20/13.30.

"People have no confidence in meetings of the cabinet or the central bank and are not hesitating to buy dollars at any price," a dealer at one Beirut bank said. "Strong decisions are needed to shock depositors and restore confidence."

The central bank's board was meeting Monday to consider how to prop up the currency, which traded at nine to the dollar at the start of January.

"If no concrete decisions are taken, we will see a daily depreciation of 100-200 piasters," the dealer said.

The cabinet met on Saturday but announced no new measures to strengthen the pound, which stood at under six to the dollar when the "national unity" government was formed last April.

Bankers have blamed its recent plunge on continuing political instability as well as economic stagnation and a worsening balance of payments deficit.

Meanwhile, in an apparent effort to reassure the market, cabinet minister Mr. Salim Al Hoss told state radio reporters Monday that "whatever development takes place, the government cannot consider changing the free enterprise system the country now has."

Mr. Hoss, minister for labour and education and the only trained economist in the cabinet, apparently was responding to rumours that radical economic changes were being considered by the government of Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

W. German jobless rate hits 10.6%

NUREMBERG, West Germany (AP) — West German unemployment hit a postwar high of 2.2 million people, or 10.6 per cent of the labour force, the Federal Labour Office said Monday.

The previous record was 2.5 million, a jobless rate of 10.2 per cent, in January, 1984.

Last month's record figures reflected a sharp increase from December, 1984, when 2.3 million people, 9.4 per cent of the labour force, were out of work, the office said.

Labour Office President Heinrich Franke attributed the sharply higher unemployment to unusually cold winter weather, which halted mass construction and affected other industries.

"In any case, its effect won't disappear between today and tomorrow," Mr. Franke said.

IMF loans drop sharply

WASHINGTON (AP) — Loans by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to countries in financial trouble dropped sharply last year as the fund's conditions grew tougher, according to a report made public Sunday.

The fund is owned by 148 governments, with the largest number of votes cast by the United States and its world headquarters in Washington. Unlike most international organisations, it has the power to require policy changes by the governments it helps.

Loans in 1984 amounted to approximately \$7.1 billion compared with a peak of \$13.4 billion in 1983. The fund estimates that each dollar of its own made possible the lending of another \$7 by banks.

Beginning in 1979 with a loan to Turkey, the fund has been refusing to risk its own money except as part of a package in which other lenders join.

The official IMF memorandum dated Monday said that 88.8 per cent of the fund's loans in 1984 — \$6.35 billion worth — were "subject to relatively strong economic policy conditions." That was true of only 73 per cent — \$9.75 billion — in 1983 and 60 per cent in 1982.

The publication did not give details of the conditions, which are designed to put a country into better shape to pay its debts. They often require a government to devalue its currency, to bring down inflation, to cut its spending — especially on subsidies for food and other consumer goods — and to take other measures that can lead to deep political trouble.

Last year the government of the Dominican Republic blamed the fund's requirements for price increases that brought riots in which more than 50 people were killed.

At the end of the year, the fund had loan arrangements in effect with 33 countries from Argentina to Zambia and including the world's two biggest debtors — Brazil and Mexico. Brazil and Mexico have longer-term arrangements than most of the others.

The memorandum reported that in the third quarter of last year inflation took another jump in the poor countries, despite the fund's efforts to hold prices down. The annual rate for the July-August period was 62 per cent, compared with 46.3 per cent in the same period the year before.

The highest inflation was in Bolivia, where price increases reached an annual rate of 1001.1 per cent last summer, and Argentina with 655.3 per cent.

Inflation was down to a 4.6 per cent annual rate for the quarter in the richer industrial countries.

Swiss truck drivers isolate Switzerland in toll protest

BERNE (R) — Swiss truck drivers Monday blockaded border crossings with France, West Germany, Austria and Italy, bringing commercial traffic to a virtual standstill and delaying private cars, the government said.

They were protesting against tolls the Swiss government has imposed on domestic and foreign truck drivers, since the beginning of the year. A time limit has been set on the action.

Foreign governments have retaliated against the tolls and imposed their own taxes, aimed specifically at Swiss drivers.

Swiss road transport companies say their livelihoods are threatened by this double taxation and want the Swiss government to reimburse payments in foreign countries.

A driver at the Ferney-Voltaire border with France told reporters the blockade was intended "to make the government see we cannot go on paying these retaliatory taxes."

The action, initiated by the Organisation in the Interests of Cross-Border Freight Traffic, was condemned by the National Swiss Hauliers' Association.

Hauliers' President Heinz Fischer said the protest had come "at the worst possible time," since the Swiss government was currently negotiating with foreign authorities with the aim of dismantling retaliatory tolls.

Blockade organisers distributed pamphlets calling on the government to exempt foreign drivers from the tax at that retaliatory taxes would be abolished.

The Swiss electorate voted in favour of the new heavy goods toll in a referendum last year. According to finance ministry spokesman Mr. Oswald Siegg, the government had not expected foreign authorities to retaliate.

"Our talks with foreign transport ministries indicated there would be no reaction. But it seems that the governments came under pressure from the domestic truckers' associations," he told Reuters.

The tolls were intended to raise some 150 million Swiss francs (\$56 million) a year. They would be difficult to dismantle given the referendum decision and there was no plan for reimbursing Swiss drivers' foreign tolls, he said.

Since the beginning of the year, taxes aimed at Swiss drivers have been introduced in France, Sweden and Spain as well as a string of Eastern European countries. West Germany is planning a similar toll.

A Swiss delegation, headed by senior economy ministry official Mr. Philippe Levy, is currently visiting foreign capitals in a bid to secure abolition of retaliatory tolls.

Panama has largest ship fleet

PANAMA CITY (AP) — Panama never has been a seafaring nation. Few sailors say they are home when they steam into its waters through its canal, and only a handful of ship owners actually live here.

But the tiny Central American country has one of the largest fleets of merchant ships in the world, and it is making a sizeable profit for a small investment and the willingness to let other countries use its name.

The method is the so-called "Flag of Convenience" system, that encourages ship owners of all nations to register their vessels here in exchange for easy regulations and lower operating costs than in their home countries.

In recent years, with the global economic crunch and receding slowdown in the shipping industry, a growing number of owners have put national pride aside for the cost-effective convenience of flying the Panamanian tri-colour aboard their ships.

Last year, Flag of Convenience registrations earned this country \$47 million, according to official statistics.

Panama charges about \$9,000 to register a mid-sized cargo ship. But a major advantage of registry here are loose labour restrictions, requiring that only 10 per cent of the crew members aboard each vessel be Panamanian nationals.

Other countries, including the United States, are strict in requiring that all the officers and flag-board ships flying their flag be citizens of that country.

With more than 11,800 ships registered here, and only about 800 qualified seamen to employ, Panama is a long way from filling its 10 per cent quota. And ship owners are free to sign on most if not all crew members wherever labour is least expensive.

"Operating one of these ships, compared with what it costs to operate a ship from a country where they pay high wages, is an important difference," Mr. Carlos Arze, deputy chief of the directorate of consular and maritime affairs, said in a recent interview.

He estimated the owners of Panamanian flag ships are able to slash crew costs almost in half by employing sailors from the Philippines, South Korea or India. Most of the seamen aboard Panamanian ships are Filipinos.

Mr. Arze said Panama pioneered the flag of convenience system or open registry of ships in 1925. But it is only in the past six years, when the country moved from having 22 million to 48 million deadweight tons under its flag, that the practice was recognised as a real boon for the nation's economy.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities ended above their initial low, helped by bargain hunting, with the FTSE 100 share index in 1530 GMT down 7.5 at 1265.1 having dipped to 1257.1.

Shares had been marked down sharply as hopes of an early cut in U.K. clearing banks base rates faded with domestic money rates firming and sterling easing against the dollar, dealers said. Trading remained cautious ahead of Tuesday's U.K. January money supply figures.

Government bonds ended up to 4 point easier partly reflecting the lower trend of the U.S. bond market while gold shares eased with the bullion price. North Americans were lower.

Among leading issues, ICI showed a net fall of 5p at 837 having opened at 829. P and O shed 11p at 383 after 378 and BTR eased 2p at 637 after 627. Banks ended little changed from Friday's closing levels while insurances followed the basic trend of the market. In quiet oils, B.P. firmed 2p to 530.

Weekend declined 6p at 120 after 112 following reports it is pressuring the British government for orders, contrary to press reports, the company is not seeking an official rescue package.

Pinkie jumped 79p to 330 following a bid approach from Harrold and Croft which eased 3p at 448.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

	U.S. dollars
One sterling	1.1171/80
One U.S. dollar	0.8946/50
One Canadian dollar	0.7165/75
One West German mark	2.2495/30
One Swiss franc	0.6394/97
One Japanese yen	9.7550/60
One Italian lire	1,966.50/1,967.50
One Norwegian crown	258.90/259.00
One Swedish crown	9.1050/1150
One Danish crown	4.2250/550
One ounce of gold	11,402.5/125.5
	301.00/301.50

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, FEB. 5, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day is the best time to make headway with those in position of authority in aiding you to get your new and pioneering plans put across.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Going after personal desires in a positive way is wise and you find friends are also helpful. Be more supportive of a hewig.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) See experts who can aid you in some unusual enterprise you are currently working on. Use care in motion today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Friends can be amenable in your suggestions and helpful today. Analyze your personal aims.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Try a new tack where your business affairs are concerned and you can make greater progress. Use care with money.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Contact those who can appreciate your creative ideas and make the most of them. Avoid overplaying your hand.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Before you ask a favor of a person of different background to yours, think it over well. Be aware of loved one's needs.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) If you want to join forces with a charming partner, make sure you do not give up too much of your own holdings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) Be more cooperative with fellow workers and you can gain their aid for some new venture you want to put in motion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) It is natural that you want to have a good time, so contact right playmates and have fun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Some new idea can bring fine results today if you get it in motion early. Extend invitations to friends for this evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Good day to make improvements that are needed, whether at home or at work. A pat on the back should be given to co-workers.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Yesterday's benefit can continue today from monetary plans you made not long ago. Plan for even greater progress.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY he or she will like to study into as many different things as possible. Channel all this energy into constructive outlets. Teach early to finish a project before going on to another one. A college education is a must here.

THE Daily Crossword by John Greenman

ACROSS

- 1 Victory, e.g.
- 8 Not solid aid
- 13 Afr. village
- 14 Razz
- 15 A Greene
- 16 Pitcher with a spout
- 17 Harvest
- 18 The 400
- 19 Small dog
- 22 Pastoral poems
- 23 Sign a poet
- 24 "Miser" kin
- 27 Lamb
- 31 Hammarikjold
- 34 Saroyan boy
- 35 Trilley din
- 36 Sled dog
- 40 "Thanks —!"
- 42 Female hare
- 43 Labels
- 44 Car cylinder
- 46 Cozy nook
- 47 "Yes —"
- 52 Cattlemen's helpmate
- 58 Outsider
- 59 Soon
- 60 Musical site
- 61 Le — Fr.
- 62 Grain-field weed
- 63 Space agency
- 64 Veni scorn
- 65 Zouk!
- 66 Chemical ending

DOWN

- 1 Planted
- 2 Veep's boss
- 3 Showery month
- 4 Will used to grind ore
- 5 Mortgage
- 6 Eau's wife
- 7 Fls — Fr.
- 8 Salesperson
- 9 Laze
- 10 My Indian
- 11 Hili horde
- 12 Licks props
- 13 — tasse
- 20 Wraps
- 21 — and outs
- 25 Sandy hue
- 26 Lazarus and
- 27 Bovey
- 28 Shade tree
- 29 Extol
- 29 — the Valley of...
- 30 US writer
- 31 Laze
- 32 Inter —
- 33 Crew
- 34 Tabby's yen
- 37 Grs. rel.
- 38 Hgt.
- 39 United
- 40 Padded vine
- 44 Harefoot
- 46 Beany
- 48 Rives to the
- 50 Mediterranean
- 52 Cries from
- 53 Supply with troops
- 50 Obliterate
- 51 A Farber
- 52 Cries from
- 53 Scrooge
- 54 Kind of wire
- 55 Actor Richard
- 56 Red-lape hang-up
- 57 Halls dance

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SLAB IMPRA ALAR
LARA MOLAN DOR
LABUT STANISLUB
HOB STEW ALLSEN
GRASPED BRAT
TITA FOOTSTEP
UPSTANDDOWN ERE
TEAR LUCKIE SEED
ARIC LUCKIE WIND
MUSKANDIS EVA
DEE SPENSER
ROUTES RIVER ORE
UPSTANDDOWN ALBA
TENA LURIED MOOD
SNAIG FIELDS ANTE

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

HARRIS

"He should golf in the kitchen. He slices, dices, chops and grates all in one swing."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Useable these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RUFT

ARBIN

NAUVEE

SLIMAD

WHILE SHE WAS GETTING A FACEFUL OF MUD SHE WAS ALSO GETTING THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: AN OF OF (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: WHISK AWARD SPEEDY ENGINE
Answer: What the church sexton minds — HIS KEYS & PEWS

Peanuts

DOGS ARE 'LUCKY... DOGS NEVER HAVE TO DO HOMEWORK... DOGS NEVER REALLY HAVE TO DO ANYTHING JUST LISTEN TO CRITICISM...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

WELL, WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE IN COURT? A POLICEMAN! HAVE YOU ANYTHING YOU WISH TO SAY IN YOUR DEFENSE? YES, YOUR HONOR, I HAVE! WELL, WHAT IS IT? WELL, I JUST FINISHED READING THAT BOOK YOU WROTE ABOUT HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL BY LETTING YOUR NATURAL SELF COME OUT... WELL, I DID — AND HERE I AM!

Andy Capp

VICAR, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD... NO, I COULDN'T... INSTEAD OF LOVING YOUR ENEMIES, HOW ABOUT HAVING A BIT OF TIME FOR YOUR FRIENDS?!!

West optimistic of progress at Geneva disarmament talks

GENEVA (R) — A 40-nation disarmament conference resumes here on Tuesday with western diplomats optimistic of progress on a chemical weapons ban treaty and a generally more fruitful session in the light of forthcoming U.S.-Soviet arms control talks.

An autonomous body linked to the United Nations, the conference brings together the five nuclear powers — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — allies from both major political blocs and 21 Non-Aligned states.

Last year's session took place at a time of frosty relations between the superpowers following the suspension in late 1983 of U.S.-Soviet talks on medium and long-range nuclear missiles.

Now that missile negotiations are set to resume in Geneva, western diplomats are hoping for a more dynamic session of the disarmament conference.

"Almost everybody is optimistic that the climate will now be better and that there will be more progress on chemical arms," chief U.S. delegate Doland Howitz told Reuters.

Mr. Howitz said U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

Director Kenneth Adelman would address the session on Feb. 12.

Negotiations on chemical arms, that have been held in different forms for 16 years, got bogged down over a draft treaty tabled last April by U.S. Vice President George Bush.

The draft called for a ban on the possession, storage, production or export of chemical arms. It also proposed that governments should be obliged to open for international inspection state-run or state-controlled chemical facilities where there was suspicion the treaty was being violated.

Moscow rejected the idea saying it was intrusive and that it discriminated against the Soviet Bloc, which would have to open all chemical plants to inspection while private Western sites would be exempt.

Hardly any progress was made

on other items the conference is dealing with such as the prevention of an arms race in outer space, a nuclear test ban or a ban on radiological weapons — arms which could kill by dispersing radioactive materials without a nuclear explosion.

Meanwhile in Washington President Reagan is asking Congress to authorise \$322.2 billion for military spending in the 1986 financial year, including an increase in funding for his "Star Wars" space defence programme.

The request, up from about \$292.5 billion this year, calls for continuation of the massive arms build-up begun when Mr. Reagan took office in 1981.

In the 1986 budget, to be presented to Congress Tuesday, Mr. Reagan seeks \$6.2 billion for the B-1 strategic bomber, \$4 billion for the MX intercontinental missile and \$3.7 billion for research on Star Wars.

But his arms budget is expected to meet stiff congressional opposition, with members arguing that the Pentagon must join domestic agencies in making spending reductions to help cut a U.S. deficit of some \$222 billion.

The \$322.2 billion in spending authority includes \$313.7 billion for the Pentagon itself, \$8.05 billion for nuclear weapons research, which is conducted by the Energy Department, and \$454 million for civil defence.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has repeatedly rebuffed congressional demands for examples of areas in which defence outlays could be cut. In a statement accompanying the budget document, he defended the arms spending request as a necessary response to a massive military build-up by the Soviet Union.

He said the administration's tough military posture helped persuade Moscow to agree to arms reduction talks due to open in Geneva on March 12.

Mr. Weinberger, in an annual report to Congress, proposed arms budgets over the next five years of \$2,000 billion but said this could be cut if arms control talks were successful.

He said the 1986 budget, if enacted, "will signal to our adversaries and allies alike that we will continue to meet our responsibilities to remain free, secure and at peace."



1,800 U.K. miners abandon strike

LONDON (R) — Hundreds of miners abandoned Britain's 47-week-old coal strike Monday as union leaders made a new bid for peace talks with the state management.

The National Coal Board said 1,800 men had reported for duty by mid-morning, more than 500 of them in the Yorkshire stronghold of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

A management spokesman said it was a dramatic return to work following the collapse of an attempt last week to restart settlement negotiations. It exceeded the total for the whole of last week, when 1,600 miners gave up

the struggle. Thousands of strikers picketed collieries in Yorkshire and other areas of northern England in response to an NUM appeal for intensified efforts to discourage miners from going back.

The only violence reported was in Northumberland, in the northeast, where pickets stoned a bus carrying 12 miners to work at a pit near Alnwick. One passenger was injured, police said.

Pickets also turned away 43 pit supervisors trying to enter the Westoe Colliery near South Shields to make underground safety checks. NUM President Arthur Scargill

and other leaders of his union conferred with officials of Britain's independent mediation service, ACAS, to explore ways of reopening peace talks.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the board have made it clear that fresh negotiations would be futile unless the NUM agreed, in principle, to the closure of money-losing pits.

The board has hardened its position because it believes the strike, called in March over pit closures, will eventually collapse. At the weekend, it predicted a renewed surge back to work by miners this week — possibly up to 8,000 men.

Athens bombers warn of more attacks

ATHENS (R) — A group calling itself the National Front has vowed to strike again "very soon" following Saturday night's attack against a bar frequented by American servicemen which injured 80 people.

An anonymous caller telephoned a newspaper Sunday night to say that the previously unknown group was responsible for the blast that ripped through the ground floor of Boby's bar, in the seaside Athens suburb of Glyfada.

The caller said the explosion was against the Americans "who are responsible for the continued occupation of Cyprus."

Police said they were looking for a man aged 25 to 30 who speaks rusty Greek and is believed to be a foreigner. Eyewitnesses said they saw a

dark-skinned youth coming into the bar before the explosion carrying a packet and leaving before the blast.

Seventy of the injured were American servicemen. Ten of them suffered severe burnings and were flown to a U.S. military hospital in West Germany.

American soldiers and airmen are stationed at the nearby U.S. logistic base at Hellenikon Airport.

Police circulated a description of the man to all exit points while patrol cars combed areas of bars and coffee shops in Athens and suburbs frequented by foreigners, mainly Arabs and Cypriots.

Fragments of the apparently home-made explosive device were sent for forensic examination, police said.

In recent years the Greek Socialist government's relations with the United States have been tense.

A large part of Greek public opinion, mostly supporters of the ruling Panhellenic Socialist Movement and the pro-Moscow Greek Communist Party blame American tolerance for the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974 and the continued occupation of 40 per cent of the island in the north by Turkish troops.

Other causes for the tension in U.S.-Greek relations are the stated aim of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu to eventually remove all U.S. military installations from Greece and his intention to go ahead with a visit to Moscow later this month to promote relations with the Soviet Union.

Soviet aide reported missing in Manila

MANILA (R) — A Soviet official who arrived in Manila two weeks ago to take part in an exhibition of chemical products has disappeared and is believed to have defected, Philippine government sources said Monday.

The sources said the official, Vladimir Ivanov, who was part of a six-man delegation, had established contact with the U.S. embassy in Manila to seek political asylum.

He is believed to have left Manila on a Lufthansa flight on Jan. 21. "We suspect he has defected," the sources said.

But a spokesman for the American embassy told Reuters: "We don't have any information. We have heard the same rumours. We

have had no contact with a Russian seeking political asylum."

A Philippine Foreign Ministry spokesman would not confirm or deny the report that a Soviet official was missing but said the ministry was looking into the matter. "We may have something by tomorrow," she said.

Government sources, who did not want to be identified, said Ivanov arrived on Jan. 19. He was last seen leaving an hotel at 5.30 a.m. on Jan. 21.

They said he left behind a note for his wife which only said: "I love you Tanya."

His wife is believed to have written to Mrs. Imelda Marcos, wife of the Philippine president, seeking help in locating her husband.

The sources said Soviet diplomats sought the help of the Foreign Ministry some 12 hours after Mr. Ivanov was last seen.

He was to have attended an exhibition of Soviet chemical products from Jan. 22 to 25. Other delegates who came with him have returned home.

Mr. Ivanov's name did not appear on passenger lists of Lufthansa flights leaving Manila on Jan. 21. The government sources said there was a suspicion that he may have used another passport.

They said they knew he had left but did not know where he had gone.

The sources said they did not know Mr. Ivanov's rank.

Decision not to jail South Korean dissident cuts confrontation chance

SEOUL (R) — The South Korean government's announcement Monday that it would not jail opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung when he returns from two years of exile has reduced the potential for confrontation with critics at home and allies overseas.

Diplomats said the homecoming of the 59-year-old former presidential candidate on Friday was bound to effect elections scheduled for four days later.

But they said the decision not to send him back to jail had reduced the dangers of serious election violence and adverse reaction in Washington.

A government statement noted that Mr. Kim was conditionally released from prison in 1982 after serving two-and-a-half years of a 20-year sentence for sedition and allowed to go to the United States for medical treatment.

"It is the policy of the government not to return him to prison when he returns," the sta-

tement said. It did not say whether Mr. Kim would be placed under house arrest or otherwise restrained from political activity.

Mr. Kim told Reuters by telephone from his home in Washington that he welcomed the decision.

"I recognise this government disclosure as the beginning of a reasonable attitude," he said.

But in Seoul, police again surrounded the home of another leading dissident, Kim Young-Sam, to prevent him attending rallies for the Feb. 12 elections.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung said he feared he might get the same treatment because government agents twice visited the house of his eldest son in Seoul Sunday.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung and Mr. Kim Young-Sam are among 15 people banned from all political activity by President Chun Doo Hwan until 1988, when his seven-year term of office ends.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung said he would not take part in the elections but he thought his presence would boost opposition candidates.

A government spokesman denied that the decision not to send Mr. Kim back to prison was linked to a weekend announcement that Mr. Chun would visit Washington in April for talks with President Reagan.

Diplomats, however, said such a trip would have been difficult if Mr. Kim had been jailed again.

The White House made clear that it would regard jailing Mr. Kim as a mistake.

Three congressmen are among 20 Americans due to accompany Mr. Kim on his flight to South Korea.

Reagan administration sources said at the weekend that Washington would be keeping a close eye on events following Mr. Kim's homecoming.

Pope seeks end to Peru's fighting

LIMA, Peru (R) — Pope John Paul has launched a passionate plea to Peru's Maoist guerrillas to stop fighting, saying their violence could produce greater oppression than they already suffer.

Heavy security surrounded the Pope as he spoke to 20,000 people in the heartland of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) rebel group whose war with the army has cost 4,000 lives in four years.

"In no way is crime justified as a path to liberation," the Pope said, speaking at the Ayacucho Airport, where sandbagged machinegun nests manned by crack troops protected him.

"Violence inevitably breeds new forms of oppression and slavery usually more serious than those it was intended to liberate from," he said during his 90-minute visit.

The army, occupying Ayacucho as part of a drive against the rebels, prevented the town's leftist mayor, Leonor Zamora, from handing the Pope a letter denouncing human rights abuses and an alleged 1,000 disappearances in military swoops.

The Pontiff urged guerrillas, "if your objective is a more just and fraternal Peru, search the roads of dialogue and not those of violence."

Troops guarding the airport confiscated a banner and a large crucifix carried by 80 Indian women whose menfolk have died in clashes between soldiers and guerrillas in the barren hills.

Later Pope John Paul, on a 12-day trip to Latin America, returned to Lima and addressed more than one million people in a service at the Monterrico race track where he ordained 47 priests.

Japan's poison candy gang threatens fifth company

TOKYO (R) — Japan's poison candy gang has threatened yet another confectionary firm, saying it will burn its stores or poison its products unless it is given large amounts of money, Kyodo News Service reported Monday.

Fujiya Co. Ltd, the fifth confectionary or food firm to fall victim of the elusive gang's extortion attempts, told Reuters it had given police three threatening letters received last December.

It refused to reveal the contents of the letters, signed "the man with 21 faces," the title of a 1930s mystery novel which the gang has adopted as its name.

A Fujiya spokesman said the company had not paid the gang any money and had had no dealings with it since giving the letters to police.

Kyodo quoted the first letter as saying: "We have decided to get 100 million yen (\$380,000) from

you. We have everything... guns, pistols, dynamite, hydrochloric acid and hydrochloric cyanide."

"We are more powerful than the police and won't be captured. Franchised stores, if set on fire, will burn well," it said.

The letter also said: "At Christmas, ambulances because of Fujiya's cakes. St. Valentine's Day is around the corner," Kyodo quoted.

Japanese women customarily give men friends chocolates to mark St. Valentine's Day and sales in the first two weeks of February amount to about 10 per cent of the year's total.

Kyodo quoted the second letter as saying: "You (company President Soshio Fuji) think carefully whether to make the company bankrupt or to give us money in the first days of the new year. Could you protect your 1,000 stores throughout the country?"

Baker sworn in as U.S. treasury secretary

WASHINGTON (R) — Former White House Chief of Staff James Baker took the formal oath of office as U.S. Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Baker, who started his new job Monday, was sworn in during a private ceremony at his Washington home, a treasury spokesman said.

He replaces Donald Regan who moved over to the White House Monday to take over Mr. Baker's old job as chief of staff in a job switch announced last month by President Reagan.

Kremlin said to have considered nuclear attack on China

NEW YORK (R) — Soviet Communist chiefs considered dropping a high-radiation nuclear bomb on China after a border clash in 1969, according to a book by a high-ranking Soviet defector.

Arkady Shevchenko, a United Nations under-secretary general and adviser to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko before he defected to the United States in 1978, says they scrapped the plan after warnings from the United States.

Mr. Shevchenko, the highest ranking Soviet official to defect to the West, says he had worked for U.S. intelligence for more than two-and-one-half years when he decided to defy an order to return to Moscow.

Referring to the aftermath of the 1969 clash between the Soviet Union and China on the Ussuri River, he writes in his book *Breaking With Moscow*:

"A ministry colleague who had been present at the politburo discussion told me that Marshal Andrei Grechko, the defence minister, actively advocated a plan to 'once and for all get rid of the Chinese threat.'"

"He called for unrestricted use of the multimegaton bomb known in the West as the 'Blockbuster.' The bomb would release enormous amounts of radioactive fallout, not only killing millions of Chinese but threatening Soviet citizens in the Far East as well as people in other countries bordering China."

Mr. Shevchenko says not many military men shared what he calls Marshal Grechko's "mad, bellicose stance" and disagreements about bombing China caused a stalemate in the politburo for several months.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry, KGB (security service) and military intelligence sounded out Washington's possible reaction to a nuclear strike on China, he says, and the Soviet Ambassador in Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin, made casual inquiries among middle level U.S. officials.

Mr. Dobrynin's report contained a "sober assessment that the United States would not be passive regarding such a blow at China" and concluded there would be a risk of serious Soviet American confrontation.

Mr. Shevchenko says Moscow then dropped the plan, adding that of the factors that dissuaded the politburo "the important one was undoubtedly the warning that the United States would rebuff it vigorously."

Meanwhile Mr. Shevchenko also said that the cost of the Soviet Union's mission to the United Nations is paid largely by a levy on the wages of Soviet nationals employed by the U.N. Secretariat.

"At the end of each month, Soviet employees of the secretariat lined up at the mission bookkeeper's office to hand over the money they earned at the United

Nations."

They would then be paid a salary according to a scale set by the Soviet government. For a senior official paid about \$2,000 a month by the United Nations, it would amount to less than \$800 a month.

Mr. Shevchenko says: "These kickbacks provided significant benefits to the Soviet Union. The mission managed to cover almost all its expenses from the earnings of U.N. employees."

"To add insult to injury, at least half the Soviet nationals working in the international organisation are not diplomats but KGB (security service) or GIU (military intelligence) professionals."

Mr. Shevchenko also recounted how he cooperated with U.S. intelligence before defecting. He said he had to provide posts in his own U.N. department for a number of KGB and GIU men.

"Nine out of 12 Soviets as well as a Czechoslovak, a Hungarian, an East German and a Bulgarian under my supervision were intelligence professionals or co-opted by the KGB and GIU," he said.

Mr. Shevchenko, a protégé of Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko who was undersecretary general of the United Nations, appeared on the CBS television programme "60 minutes" in advance of publication of his book.

Excerpts from the 378-page book, giving an insider's view of the Kremlin during the Khrushchev through Brezhnev years, also were published Sunday in Time magazine.

The CBS programme included an interview with Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, America's U.N. ambassador in late 1975 when Mr. Shevchenko expressed a desire to defect.

Mr. Moynihan said the United States suspected it might be a trick and decided to test the Russian.

Said Shevchenko: "I thought maybe I could stay for a very short period of time, get exactly what they wanted... I never had an idea of a long period of spying but since I was several months with them, what can I do, you know and they could even betray me to the Soviets."

He said his principal task was to give his Central Intelligence Agency handlers, who eventually rented a flat in his New York building to avoid Soviet detection, details on how Moscow would react to world events.

"In a period of détente in Latin America, I in advance been (SIC) telling what was going on between Cuba and the Soviet Union and what their future plans (were) in Central America," Mr. Shevchenko said, adding:

"Of course as far as the United Nations, the United States always knew in advance what would be every position on how the Soviet Union will vote on..."

The CBS programme said he



Liz Taylor breaks off engagement

NEW YORK (AP) — Actress Elizabeth Taylor says she took sleeping pills two at a time for 35 years and mixed the painkiller Percodan with alcohol before family and friends finally convinced her to enter a rehabilitation programme. Miss Taylor also said in an interview published in Monday's New York Times that she had just decided to break off her engagement to Dennis Stein, who would have become her eighth husband. The paper did not elaborate on the reported breakup. Miss Taylor spent seven weeks in the Betty Ford Centre, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility near Palm Springs, California, where actresses Liza Minnelli, Mary Tyler Moore and country singer Johnny Cash also have gone.

70 per cent of divorce in China filed by women

PEKING (AP) — Seventy per cent of China's divorce petitions are filed by women, a report in the official weekly Peking Review said Monday. The report blamed the "vestiges of feudalism" for about one-third of the 500,000 divorces granted each year. Arranged marriages, the concept of male superiority and abuse of women who fail to give birth to sons, "The report stressed China's emphasis on mediation and said about half of all divorce petitions are denied. Most of those granted are cases where the husband and wife agree to split up. The article noted the social pressure put on people in their 20s to marry, and said such unhappy marriages often end in unhappiness. "In a survey of China's young marrieds, pollsters found that 60 per cent of those questioned lacked 'real and spontaneous love' for their life partners," the article said.

40 go blind after cataract operations

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 40 people went blind after operations to remove cataracts at a camp in India's eastern state of Bihar, the United News of India (UNI) said Monday. The news agency said 168 people had the eye operations last month at a free camp organised by a charity. It quoted the patients who went blind as saying that they were not given proper post-operative care or anti-infection drugs. Some patients also complained they were not provided with free spectacles after their operation. An eye doctor who examined the victims said they were not examined carefully enough before the operations, nor kept under medical supervision for six weeks afterwards as they should have been, UNI added.

Vatican accused of double standards

VIENNA (R) — The Czechoslovak Communist Party daily Rude Pravo accused the Vatican Monday of double standards in its attitudes to priests who engage in politics. The paper said the Vatican not only tolerated but encouraged "political activities of Catholic clergy directed against progressive forces, against the Socialist system." Events in Nicaragua showed the Vatican was displeased by "clergymen who work for social progress." Rude Pravo referred to a directive from the Vatican that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto should either give up his ministry or renounce the priesthood. During his tour of South America the Pope has repeated his stand against priests being involved in politics and against the so-called Liberation Theology, which centres on a class struggle to improve living conditions.

Sheepdog's wealth puzzles taxmen

LONDON (R) — A smart sheepdog called Major of Aethyn has posed a major puzzle in Britain — how can the wealth he has amassed on the London Stock Exchange be taxed? William picked his first portfolio 11 years ago when American investment analyst Robert Beckman asked stockbrokers to open an account in the dog's name. Faced with the first list of shares, the dog licked his lips at the mention of Jantar Tin and made \$1,600 on the deal. Other shares were bought at the wag of a tail or a growl. William now has a fat account of \$110,000. Inland revenue inspectors have doggedly sought \$33,000 in tax, but are so far empty handed.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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SOME CAN'T WIN

Both vulnerable, North deals.

NORTH
♠ A74
♥ AS43
♦ K8
♣ AK62

EAST
♠ Q1062
♥ 1098
♦ Q10
♣ QJ74

SOUTH
♠ 93
♥ KJ76
♦ AS52
♣ 853

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠.

All finesses aren't equal. There are some where, even if they succeed, the best you can do is break even. If they fail... Consider this example from a rubber bridge game.

The auction was simple enough. North was on the borderline of a raise to three hearts or four hearts: He chose the conservative course, but South had more than enough to outcote to game.

West led his fourth-best diamond, and declarer wasted no time in going down. He won the king of diamonds, cashed the ace of trumps